

classes, in being more elaborate; the individual nerves all communicating with a continuous cord which extends from one extremity of the body to the other; but which, instead of floating loosely in the general cavity of the body, as in insects, &c. is contained in a canal essentially consisting of a series of parts called *vertebræ*, which taken together form what is called the spine or backbone. From the structure of this spine these classes are called *vertebrated*: and it is deserving of notice that these classes alone have a *cranium*, or skull.

The nervous cord above described is known more familiarly under the name of the spinal *marrow*, a term which is derived from its resemblance, in some of its physical characters, to the oil contained in the interior of the bones of man and various other animals.

That portion of the spinal cord which is contiguous to the head is continued into the cavity of the skull; and is there apparently lost in a more or less regular mass of nervous matter called the brain: which is small, and simple in its structure, in fish; larger, and more complicated, progressively, in reptiles, birds, and quadrupeds; largest, and most complicated, in man. From the lower surface of the brain arise several pairs of nerves which are principally distributed upon the organs of the distinct senses, and the muscles of the face: and it is