

cumber their wings and bring them to the surface of the water. Whether led to admire the wonderful power of instinct in these inferior creatures, or the property acquired by our own eye, we must acknowledge here a compound operation.\*

The impression of odours on the nerve of smelling is exactly what some would have us to believe the effect of light is on the nerve of vision; and yet, the impression on the nerve of vision alone is sufficient, in their opinion, to inform us of all that we know through the eye. Now of the direction and distance from which odours come we are quite ignorant, until by turning the head and directing the nostrils, and moving this way and that, we make comparison, and discover on which side the smell is strongest on the sense.

The property of motion in the body is, in insects, rendered subservient to smelling, as well as to vision. There can be nothing in the mere exercise of the organ of smelling to direct the insect in its flight. If a piece of carrion be thrown out, the flies approach it,—not in a direct line, but by coming in circles, towards it; and so do the bees, in a garden, when

\* In these instances a difficulty will readily occur to the reader; how does the fish judge of position, since the rays of light are refracted at the surface of the water? Does instinct enable it to do this, or is it by experience?