

CHAPTER IV.

ARTICULATA.

§ 1. *Articulated Animals in general.*

From the Cephalopoda, the transition is easy to the lowest order of vertebrated animals. But previously to pursuing the analogies which connect these two divisions of the animal kingdom, we have to pass in review a very extensive series of animal forms, constructed upon a peculiar system, and occupying, as well as the Mollusca, a place intermediate between Zoophytes and the more highly organized classes.

We have seen that even in those Zoophytes which are distinguished from the rest by a more elaborate conformation of organs, the powers of progressive motion are always extremely limited. Nor are the Mollusca in general more highly favoured with respect to the degree in which they enjoy this faculty. But the greater number of the animals composing the series we are now to examine are provided with a complete apparatus for motion, and endowed with extensive capacities for using and applying it in various ways. While nature has preserved in the construction of their vital organs the simplicity which marks the primitive modes of organization, and has adhered to a definite model in the formation of the different parts of the system, she has nowhere displayed more boundless variety in the combinations of the forms which she has impressed upon the mechanical instruments, both of prehension and of progression.

All the tribes of Zoophytes, and by far the greater num-