

although the force with which they act may be somewhat lessened, yet the velocity of the motion they produce is increased in the same proportion. The fibula is here a bone of more importance than in quadrupeds; for it performs a motion of rotation round the tibia, analogous to that of the radius upon the ulna, giving a great extent of action to the foot, and converting the leg into an arm, as we have already seen that the foot itself is transformed into a hand. A small inclination is given to the articulation of the tarsus with these last mentioned bones, which imparts a degree of twist to the feet, throwing the sole inwards, and causing the monkey while walking to rest chiefly on its outer edge. This seeming defect gives a slight appearance of awkwardness to the gait: it is not, however, to be viewed as an imperfection, for it is evidently designed to assist the animal in climbing trees, which is its most usual action, the oblique position of the foot enabling it most effectually to lay hold of the branches. Monkeys are evidently not formed to excel in swiftness; for the heel, in these animals, presents no large projection, as in other orders of mammalia; nor are the muscles which are inserted into the heel particularly powerful: they hardly, indeed, can be said to compose a calf as in the human leg.

§ 12. *Man.*

THE series of structures modelled on the characteristic type of the Mammalia, after having exhibited the successive development of all its elements, attains the highest perfection in the human fabric; for even independently of those prerogatives of intellect and of sensibility, by which Man is so far exalted above the level of the brute creation, both his physical structure and his physiological constitution place him incontestably at the summit of the scale of terrestrial beings. Considered zoologically, indeed, the human species must rank among the Mammalia, and it even makes a near approach to the Quadrumana; yet there exists many peculiarities of structure, which entitle Man to be placed in a sepa-