

of the food, while the mastication is going on ; glands to feed the fountains ; a muscular construction of a very peculiar kind in the back part of the cavity, for the guiding of the prepared aliment into its passage towards the stomach, and in many cases for carrying it along that passage.” “In the meantime, and within the same cavity, is going on another business altogether different from what is here described—that of respiration and of speech. In addition, therefore, to all that has been mentioned, we have a passage opened from this cavity to the lungs, for the admission of air, exclusively of every other substance ; we have muscles, some in the larynx, and without number in the tongue, for the purpose of modulating that air in its passage, with a variety, a compass, and a precision of which no other musical instrument is capable. And lastly, we have a specific contrivance for dividing the pneumatic part from the mechanical, and for preventing one set of actions interfering with the other.” “The mouth, with all these intentions to serve, is a single cavity ; is one machine, with its parts neither crowded nor confined, and each unembarrassed by the rest.”\* Such is Paley’s graphic description of the human mouth and its appendages : we have quoted it at length, that it may serve as a text for illustration.

\* Natural Theology, chap. ix.