

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

BURROWING MAMMALIA.

Introduction.—MAN as a Burrower.—The MOLE and its Dwelling.—Difficulty of observing its Habits.—Complicated structure of its Fortress, and its Uses.—Character of the Mole.—Adaptation of its Form to its mode of Life.—Common Objects.—The SHREW MOLE, ELEPHANT SHREW, and MUSK RAT.—The ARCTIC FOX.—Structure of its Limbs.—Form of its Burrow.—Its Character, Fur, and Flesh.—The common FOX.—Mode of Burrowing and economy of Labor.—The young Family.—The WEASEL, and some of its Habits.—The BADGER and its Burrow.—The PRAIRIE DOG, or WISH-TON-WISH.—Dog-towns.—Unpleasant Intruders.—The RABBIT, and the WARREN.—Self-sacrifice.—Study of animal Life.—The CHIPPING SQUIRREL.—Curious form of its Dwelling.—Its subterranean Treasures.—The WOODCHUCK, the POUCHED RAT, the CAMAS RAT, the MOLE RAT, and the SAND MOLE.—The WHITE BEAR.—Its curious Dwelling.—Snow as a Shelter.—The PICHICAGO.—Its Form, Armor, and Burrow.—The ARMADILLOS and their Habits.—The MANIS.—The AARD VARK, its Food and Dwelling.—The MALLANGONG.—Its strange Habits and its Burrow.—The PORCUPINE ANTEATER.—Its burrowing Powers..... Page 19

CHAPTER II.

BURROWING BIRDS.

The SAND MARTIN.—Mode of Burrowing and Shape of the Tunnel.—Enemies of the Sand Martin.—Midges and Martins.—The KINGFISHER and its Habits.—Its Burrow and peculiar Nest.—Number of the Eggs.—The PUFFIN a feathered Usurper.—The FEROE Islands and the Puffins.—Pro aris et focis.—The MUTTON BIRD and its Burrows.—Snakes and Birds.—The JACKDAW, STOCKDOVE, and SHELDRAKE.—Nest of the Sheldrake.—The BEE-EATER and its Habits.—Its Burrow and Nest.—The STORMY PETREL.—Its Mode of Nesting and shallow Tunnels.—Mode of feeding its Young.—Evil Odor of its Burrow.—The WOODPECKER.—Its Uses and misunderstood Character.—Method of Burrowing.—The Fungus and the Woodpecker.—American Woodpeckers.—The WRY-NECK.—Its popular Names and Locality of its Nest.—The STARLING.—Its social Character.—Locality of its Habitation.—The TREE CREEPER.—The NUT-HATCH and the HOPOE.—Curious Nest of the Hoopoe.—The COLE-TIT and its Habits.—A Cole-tit's Nest at Walton Hall.—The TOUCAN.—The enormous Beak and its Uses.—Nest of the Toucan.—The SWIFT.—Its Nest and Eggs.—Its curious Feet and their Structure..... 74

CHAPTER III.

BURROWING REPTILES.

The REPTILES and their Hibernation.—The LAND TORTOISE and its Winter Dwelling.—The CROCODILES.—Snakes.—The YELLOW SNAKE of Jamaica.—Its general Habits.—Its burrowing powers discovered.—Presumed Method of removing the Earth..... 102

CHAPTER IV.

BURROWING INVERTEBRATES.

CRUSTACEA.

The LAND CRABS and their Habits.—The Violet Land Crab.—Its Burrows, its Combativeness, and its pedestrian Powers.—The FIGHTING CRAB, why so called.—The RACER CRAB of Ceylon.—Its Burrows, and Mode of carrying off the Soil.—The ROBBER CRAB.—Its Form and general Habits.—Food of the Robber Crab.—A soft Bed and well-stocked Larder.—The CHELURA, and its Ravages among Timber.—The GRIBBLE and its Kin..... Page 104

CHAPTER V.

BURROWING MOLLUSKS.

The BORING SNAIL of the Bois des Roches.—Opinions as to its Method of Burrowing.—Shape of the Tunnels.—Solitary Habits of the Snail.—The PIDDOCK, its Habits and Appearance.—Structure of the Shell, and its probable Use.—Method of Burrowing.—Use of the Piddock and other marine Burrowers.—The Balance of Nature preserved.—The WOOD-BORER and its Habits.—The DATE SHELL.—Its extraordinary Powers of Tunneling.—The RAZOR SHELL.—Its Localities and Mode of Life.—The FLASK SHELL and the WATERING-POT SHELL.—The SHIP-WORM.—Its Appearance when Young and Adult.—Its curious Development.—Its Ravages, and the best Method of checking them.—Its Value to Engineers.—The GIANT TEREDO.—Form, Dimensions, and Structure of the Shell.—How and where discovered..... 114

CHAPTER VI.

BURROWING SPIDERS.

The SCORPION and its Habits.—The Burrow of the Scorpion.—How detected.—Suicide among the Scorpions.—Spiders and their Burrows.—The ATYPUS.—Madame Merian and her Book of the BIRD SPIDER.—Mr. Bates's Discoveries.—Hair of the Bird Spider.—The TARANTULA.—Its Ferocity and Courage.—The TRAP-DOOR SPIDER.—Its Tunnel and the Lining thereof.—Its Appearance under the Microscope.—The "Trap-door" itself, and its Structure.—Curious Example of Instinct.—Activity of the Spider.—Specimen in the British Museum.—Strength and Obstinacy of the Trap-door Spider.—An Australian Trap-door Spider ... 128

CHAPTER VII.

BURROWING INSECTS.

HYMENOPTERA.

The SAÛBA ANT and its Habitation.—Use of the "Parasol" Leaves.—Mr. Bates's Account of the Insect.—Enormous Extent of the Dwelling.—The DUSKY ANT.—Its Strength and Perseverance.—Man and Insect contrasted.—The BROWN ANT.—Form of its Habitation.—Regulation of Temperature.—Necessity of Moisture.—How the Ant constructs Ceilings.—Mining Bees.—The ANDRENA and its burrowing Powers.—The ECCERA.—Its Habitation and curious Method of liberating the Antennæ.—The SCOLIA, its Burrows and its Prey.—The INDIAN SPHEX and its Ingenuity.—The MELLINUS and OXYBELUS.—Curious Method of catching Prey.—The PHILANTHUS, its Burrow, and the Food of its Young.—The HUMBLE-BEE—its general Habits.—Locality of its Dwelling.—Development of the Young.—The LAPIDARY BEE, its Colors, Disposition, and Habits.—The WASP—its Food and Habitation.—Materials and Architecture of the Nest.—Disposition, Form,

and Number of the Cells.—Biography of a Queen Wasp, and History of her Nest.—Other British Wasps and their Homes.—The *MONEDRILA* and its Prey.—Boldness of the Insect, and its Uses to Travelers.—The *BEMBEX*.—Its energetic Habits, its Food, and Mode of storing the Nest..... Page 140

CHAPTER VIII.

BURROWING BEETLES.

The *TIGER BEETLE* and its Habits.—Beauty of the Insect, its Larva, and Mode of Life.—Curious Form of its Burrow.—The *SEXTON BEETLE* and its Power of digging in the Ground.—The *DOR BEETLE*—its polished Surface, and the Substances in which it Burrows.—Use of the Dor Beetle.—The *SCARABÆUS* of Egypt and its wonderful Instincts.—The Egg, the Grub, and the Cocoon.—Cocoon in the British Museum.—The *MOLE-CRICKET*, its Form and elaborate Dwelling.—Its general Habits and wide Distribution.—The *FIELD-CRICKET* and its Tunnels.—Structure of the Ovipositor.—The *MIGRATORY LOCUST* and its Development.—The *ANT-LION*, its Form, Food, and Mode of Life.—The Pitfall and its Structure.—Mode of catching Prey.—Perfect Form of the Ant-lion.. 169

CHAPTER IX.

WOOD-BORING INSECTS.

BEETLES.—The usual Form of the Wood-borers.—The *SCOLYTUS* and its Ravages.—Mode of forming the Tunnels.—Curious Instinct.—Theories respecting the Scolytus.—Worm-eaten Furniture, its Cause, and the best Method of checking the Boring Insects.—Ginger and Cork Borers.—The "Petrified" Man.—The *MEALWORM* and its Ravages.—Weevils.—The *PALM WEEVIL* of Jamaica.—Its Development, and Uses as an Edible.—Its Cocoons.—The *WASP BEETLE*, its Shape, Colors, and tunneling Powers.—The *MUSK BEETLE*.—Its Beauty and Fragrance.—Difficulty of detecting the Musk Beetle.—Its Burrows and their Inmates.—The *RHAGIUM* and its Cocoon.—The *HARLEQUIN BEETLE*.—Wood-boring Bees.—*WILLOW BEE*, its Tunnel, and Mode of making the Cells.—Food of the Young.—The *POPPY BEE*.—The *PITH-BORING BEES* and their Habits.—Structure of the Cells and Escape of the Young.—Economy of Labor.—Shell-nests of Bees.—Wonderful adaptation to Circumstances.—How the Bee burrows.—The *HOOP-SHAVER BEE*.—Gilbert White's Description of its Habits.—The *SIREX* and its Burrow.—Its Ravages among Fig-trees.—Formidable Aspect of the Insect.—The two British Species.—*CARPENTER BEE*.—Mode of making its Burrow.—Methodical Labor.—Food of the Young.—How to make a Ceiling.—Number of Cells in each Burrow.—The Carpenter Bee of Australia.—The *PELOPÆUS* as a Wood-borer.—Its Tunnel, and Mode of making Cells.—The *SAPERDA*.—Damage caused to Aspen and other Trees.—A useful Parasite.—The Goat Moth.—Wood-leopard Moth.—Clear-wings and Honey-comb Moths 186

CHAPTER X.

PENSILE MAMMALIA.

THE *HARVEST-MOUSE*—its Appearance.—Reason for its Name.—Mouse Nests.—Home of the Harvest-mouse.—A curious Problem.—Food of the Harvest-mouse, and its Agility.—The *SQUIRREL*.—Its summer and winter "Cage."—Boldness of the Squirrel.—Materials for the Nest, and their Arrangement..... 213

CHAPTER XI.

PENSILE BIRDS.

WEAVER BIRDS and their general Habits.—RED-BILLED WEAVER BIRD.—Its bovine Friends.—Its Use to the Buffalo.—Other parasitic Birds.—THE SPOTTED-BACKED WEAVER BIRD.—Its Nest and variable Method of Construction.—THE MAHALI WEAVER BIRD.—Shape of the Nest.—Singular Defense.—Theories respecting the Structure.—Habits of the Bird.—Remarkable Nests of Weavers.—Account of Weavers engaged in Nest-building.—Very curious Contrivance.—THE GOLD-CAPPED WEAVER.—Structure and Situation of the Nest.—THE TAHA WEAVER BIRD.—Locality selected for its Nest.—Destructiveness to Crops.—THE PALM SWIFT.—Its general Habits.—The Nest and its variable Structure.—Silk-cotton.—THE TAILOR BIRD.—Antiquity of Handicrafts.—Structure of the Nest.—THE FAN-TAILED WARBLER.—Singular Method of fixing its Nest.—THE PENDULINE TITMOUSE.—Its Habits and Food.—Remarkable Nest and its Form Page 219

CHAPTER XII.

PENSILE BIRDS (Continued).

Australian Pensiles.—THE YELLOW-THROATED SERICORNIS.—Its Habits.—Singular Position for its Nest.—Conscious Security.—THE ROCK WARBLER.—Shape and Locality of its Nest.—THE YELLOW-TAILED ACANTHIZA.—Its Color and Song.—Supplementary Nests.—THE PINE-PINE and its Home.—Supposed Use of the supplementary Nest.—THE SINGING HONEY-EATER and its Nest.—THE MYALL or Weeping Acacia.—Various Materials.—THE LUNULATED HONEY-EATER.—A new Material.—THE PAINTED HONEY-EATER, its Habits and Nest.—The Art of Preservation.—Nests and their Branches.—The Color of Eggs.—THE WHITE-THROATED HONEY-EATER and its Habits.—Its curious Nest.—Locality of the Nest.—THE GOLDEN-CRESTED WREN, and the Resemblance of its Nest to those of the Honey-eater.—THE SWALLOW DICÆUM.—Its Song, and Beauty of its Plumage.—The Nest, its Materials, Form, and Position.—THE MALURUS and its Nest.—THE HAMMOCK BIRD.—Singular Method of suspending the Nest.—THE WHITE-SHAFTED FANTAIL.—Strange Form of the Nest.—The Appendage or Tail of the Nest. 234

CHAPTER XIII.

PENSILE BIRDS (Continued).

American Pensile Birds.—Humming-birds, and the general Structure of their Nests.—THE LITTLE HERMIT, its Color, Habits, and Nest.—THE GRAY-THROATED HERMIT and its Hardihood.—THE PYGMY HERMIT and its Seed-nest.—THE LONG-TAILED HUMMING-BIRD.—Mode of building its Nest.—THE WHITE-SIDED HILL STAR.—Curious Method of suspending its Nest.—THE SAPPHO COMET.—THE CHIMBORAZIAN HILL STAR.—Curious Locality.—Its Habits, Food, and Nest.—THE SAWBILL and its singular Nest.—Habits of the Sawbill.—THE BRAZILIAN WOOD NYMPH.—Use made of its Plumage and its Nest.—THE RUBY AND TOPAZ HUMMING-BIRD.—Stuffed Skins.—THE AZURE CEREBA, its Color, Nest, and Habits.—THE BALTIMORE ORIOLE.—Reason for its Name.—Its beautiful Nest, and curious Choice of Materials.—Familiarity of the Baltimore Oriole.—THE ORCHARD ORIOLE, or BOB-O'-LINK.—Various Forms of Nest.—Why called Orchard Oriole.—THE CRESTED CASSIQUE, its Size, Form, and Colors.—Its remarkable Nest.—Difficulty of obtaining Nests.—THE GREAT-CRESTED FLY-CATCHER, and its use of Serpent-sloughs.—THE RED-EYED FLY-CATCHER, WHIP-TOM-KELLY.—Low

Elevation of its Nest.—The WHITE-EYED FLY-CATCHER, its Nest, and Fondness for the Prickly Vine.—The PRAIRIE WARBLER, its Habits and Nest.—The PINE-CREEPING WARBLER.—The Asiatic Pensiles.—The BAYA SPARROW.—Its Color and Social Habits.—Singular Form of the Nest..... Page 249

CHAPTER XIV.

PENSILE INSECTS.

The Hymenoptera.—Australian Insects.—The CREMATOGASTER and NEGRO-HEAD.—The GREEN ANT, its Habits and Nest.—An African Species.—Pensile Ants of America.—The ABISPA and its remarkable Nest.—Ingenious Entrance.—The TATUA, or DUTCHMAN'S PIPE.—Structure and Shape of its Nest.—Firmness of the Walls.—Average Number of Cells in each Tier.—The common WASP as a Pensile Insect.—Gigantic Nest.—Union of three Colonies.—Character of the Wasp.—The NORWEGIAN WASP.—Structure and Locality of its Nest.—Classification of the Wasps.—The CAMPANULAR WASP and the NORTHERN WASP.—The CHARTEGUS, or PASTEBOARD WASP.—Mode by which the Nest is suspended.—Method of Structure.—Meaning of the Name.—Enormous Nest from Ceylon.—Various Wasp Nests.—The POLISTES as a Pensile Insect.—Singular Nest in the British Museum.—The GIBBOUS ANT.—Honey Wasps, the general Characteristics of their Nests.—The MYRAPETRA.—Its singular Nest.—Structure of the Walls and Use of the Projections.—The NECTARINIA.—Why so called.—Locality of the Nest.—Size of the Insect.—The TRIGONA and its Nest.—Ichneumon Flies.—Different Species of MICROGASTER, and their Habitations.—The PERILITUS.—Weevils.—Beautiful Cocoon of Cionus.—The EMPEROR MOTH and its Home.—The ATLAS MOTH and other Silk Producers.—The HOUSE-BUILDER MOTH and its movable Dwelling.—The TIGER MOTH and its Hammock.—The BURNET MOTHS, and their curious Homes.—The DRINKER MOTH, its Cocoon and insect Foes.—The OAK-EGGER MOTH.—Method of killing Insects.—Cocoon of the Oak-egger.—Origin of its Name.—The LITTLE EGGER MOTH.—Air-holes.—Nests discovered by Mr. Bates.—The CYPRESS-SPURGE MOTH.—Various Leaf-rollers.—Suspended COCOON.—LEAF-BURROWERS and their Homes.—The SPIDER.... 269

CHAPTER XV.

BUILDERS.

Building Mammalia.—Definition of the Title.—Inferiority of the Mammalia as Architects.—The BRUSH-TAILED BETTONG.—Its Structure and Color.—The Nest of the Bettong, and its Adaptation to the Locality.—Singular Method of conveying Materials.—Its nocturnal Habits.—The RABBIT-EARED BANDICOOT and its Habitat.—The generic Title.—Curious Form of the Ears and Feet.—Difficulty in discovering its Nest.—The MUSQUASH, or ONDATRA.—Its general Habits.—Its burrowing Powers, and Extent of its Tunnels.—The Musquash as a Builder.—Form and Size of its House.—Mode of Killing the Animal by Spear, Gun, and Trap.—Its Flesh and Fur..... 323

CHAPTER XVI.

BUILDING BIRDS.

THE OVEN BIRD and its place in Ornithology.—Its general Habits.—Nest of the Oven Bird.—Curious Materials and historical Parallel.—The Specimens in the British Museum.—The internal Architecture of the Nest.—Division into Chambers.—The PIED GRALLINA.—The Specimens at the Zoological Gardens.—Mate-

rials and Form of the Nest.—Boldness of the Bird.—The SONG THRUSH and its Nest.—The BLACKBIRD and its clay-lined Nests.—Supposed Reasons for the Lining.—The FAIRY MARTIN.—Locality, Shape, and Materials of the Nest.—Social Habits of the Bird.—How the Nest is built.—The RUFOUS-NECKED SWALLOW.—Locality and abundance of its Nests.—Curious Habit of the Bird.—Audubon's Account.—The RUFOUS-BELLIED SWALLOW.—Supplementary Nest.—How the Bird builds.—Popular Superstition and its Uses.—The HOUSE MARTIN.—Material of its Nest.—Favorite Localities.—Ingenuity of the Martin.—Adaptation to Circumstances.—Parasitic Intruders, their Number, Dimensions, and Tenacity of Life.—The SWALLOW.—Distinction between its Nest and that of the Martin.—Why called the Chimney Swallow.—TALLEGALLA, or BRUSH TURKEY.—The Illustration explained.—Various Names of the Bird.—Its singular and enormous Nest.—How the Eggs are laid and hatched.—Egress of the Young.—Remarkable Instinct.—AUSTRALIAN JUNGLE FOWL.—Shape, Size, and Position of its Nests.—How the Eggs are discovered.—LEIPOA, or NATIVE PHEASANT.—Its Mound-nest, and general Habits..... Page 327

CHAPTER XVII.

BUILDING BIRDS (*Continued*).

Nesting of the Hornbills.—Dr. Livingstone's Account of the KORWÉ, or RED-BREASTED HORNBILL.—The LONG-TAILED TITMOUSE.—Its General Habits.—Its Use to the Gardener.—Number of the Young.—Form and Materials of the Nest.—Localities chosen by the Bird.—How to prepare the fragile Eggs.—The MAGPIE.—Its domed and fortified Nest.—The common WREN and its Nest.—Pseudo-nests and their probable Origin.—The HOUSE WREN of America.—Its Habits and Mode of Nesting.—Wilson's Account of the Bird.—Its Usefulness and quarrelsome Nature.—The LYRE BIRD.—Origin of its Name.—Its domed Nest.—The ALBERT'S LYRE BIRD and its Habits.—The BOWER BIRD.—Why so called.—Civilization and social Amusement.—The remarkable Bower.—Its Materials and Mode of Construction.—Use to which it is put.—The Bower Birds in the Zoological Gardens, and their Habits.—Love of Ornament.—Meaning of the scientific Name.—The SPOTTED BOWER BIRD of New South Wales.—Its BOWER.—Description of the Birds, and their place in the present System..... 344

CHAPTER XVIII.

BUILDING INSECTS.

The TERMITE, or WHITE ANT.—General Habits of the Insect.—African Termites and their Homes.—Termites as Articles of Food.—Indian Termites.—Account of their Proceedings.—American Termites.—Mr. Bates's Account of their Habits.—European Termites.—Their Ravages in France and Spain.—M. de Quatrefages and his History of the Termites of Rochefort and La Rochelle.—The ERMENES and its mud-built Nest.—The TRYPOXYLON of South America.—The PELOPÆTUS and its curious Nest.—The MUD-DAUBER WASP.—Mr. Goss's Account of its Habits.—The MELIPONA of America.—Mr. Stone's Wasp Nests and their History.—Difference of Material.—The FORAGING ANTS of South America and their various Species.—Nests and Habits of the Foraging Ants.—The AGRICULTURAL ANT of Texas.—Dr. Linneecum's Accounts of its Habits..... 360

CHAPTER XIX.

SUB-AQUATIC NESTS. VERTEBRATES.

Fishes as Architects.—The STICKLEBACKS and their general Habits.—The FRESH-WATER STICKLEBACKS.—A jealous Proprietor.—Punishment of Trespassers.—Form and Materials of the Nest.—Use of the Nest.—Cannibalistic Propensities.—The FIFTEEN-SPINED STICKLEBACK and its Form.—Its curious Nest.—Mr. Couch's description of a Nest in a Rope's End.—Fishes of Guiana.—The HASSAR or HARDBACK, and its place in Zoology.—Nest of the Hassar.—Parental Watchfulness.—Singular Position of the Nest.—Habits of the Hassar..... Page 392

CHAPTER XX.

SUB-AQUATIC NESTS. INVERTEBRATES.

A Pool and its Wonders.—The WATER SPIDER.—Its sub-aquatic Nest.—Conveyance of Air to the Nest.—The Diving-bell anticipated.—Character of the Air in the Nest.—Mr. Bell's Experiments upon the Spider.—Life of the Water Spider.—The HYDRACHNA.—The CADDIS FLIES and their Characteristics.—Sub-aquatic Homes of the Larva.—Singular Varieties of Form and Material.—Life of a Caddis.—Description of Nests in my own Collection.—Fixed Cases, and Modification of Larva.—Singular Materials for Nest-building.—CORALS and their general History.—The Coral of Commerce.—Development and Extension of the Coral.—How fresh Colonies are founded.—Various Corals and their Growth.—Submarine Tube-makers.—The SERPULÆ and their general Habits.—The Operculum of the Serpula.—The TEREHELLE and their submarine Houses.—The CADDIS SHRIMP.—Remarkable Analogy 397

CHAPTER XXI.

SOCIAL HABITATIONS.

SOCIAL MAMMALIA.

The BEAVER.—Its Form and aquatic Habits.—Need for Water, and Means used to procure it.—Quadrupedal Engineering.—The Dam of the Beaver.—Erroneous ideas of the Dam.—How the Beaver cuts Timber.—The Beaver in the Zoological Gardens.—Theories respecting the Beaver's Dam.—How the Timber is fastened together.—Form of the Dam, and mode of its Enlargement.—Beaver-dams and Coral-reefs.—The House or Lodge of the Beaver.—Its Locality and Structure.—Use of a subterranean Passage.—How Beavers are Hunted.—Curious Superstition.—"Les Paresseux" 431

CHAPTER XXII.

SOCIAL BIRDS.

The SOCIABLE WEAVER BIRD and its Country.—Description of the Bird.—Nest of the Sociable Weaver.—How begun and how carried on.—Materials of the Nest.—The Tree on which the Nest is built, and its Uses.—Dimensions of the Nest and disastrous Consequences.—A Hottentot and a Lion.—Supposed Object of the Social Nest.—Average Number of Inhabitants.—Analogy with Dyak Houses.—Enemies of the Sociable Weaver, the Monkey, the Snake, and the Parrakeet..... 438

CHAPTER XXIII.

SOCIAL INSECTS.

Arrangement of Groups.—Nests of POLYBIA.—Curious Method of Enlargement.—Structure of the Nests.—How concealed.—Various Modes of Attachment.—A curious Specimen.—The HIVE-BEE, and its claims to Notice.—General History of

the Hive.—Form of the Cells.—The royal Cell, its Structure and Use.—Uses of the ordinary Cells.—Structure of the Bee-cell.—Economy of Space.—How produced.—Theories of different Mathematicians.—Measurement of Angles.—A logarithmic Table corrected by the Bee-cell.—The "Lozenge" a key to the Cell.—How to form it.—Beautiful mathematic Proportions of the Lozenge.—Method of Making the Cell or a Model.—Conjectured Analogy between the Cell and certain Crystals.—Effect of the Cell upon Honey.—The HORNET and its Nest.—Its favorite Localities.—Difficulties of taking a Hornet's Nest.—Habits of the Insect.—Mr. Stone's Method of taking the Nest.—The SYMPLECA and its Habitation.—Beautiful Nests in the British Museum.—Description of the Insect.—Nest of the EUCHEIRA.—Its external Form.—Curious Discovery in Dissection.—A suspended Colony.—Conjectures respecting the Structure.—Nest from the Oxford Museum.—Remarkable Form of its Doors, and Material of which it is made.—The SMALL ERMINE MOTH and its Ravages.—Its large social Habitation.—General Habits of the Larva.—Why the Sparrow does not eat them.—The GOLD-TAILED MOTH and its beautiful social Nest.—Description of a Specimen from Wiltshire.—Illustration of the Theory of Heat.—The BROWN-TAILED MOTH and its Nest.—Social Habitations of the PEACH and SMALL TORTOISE-SHELL BUTTERFLIES..... Page 442

CHAPTER XXIV.

SOCIAL INSECTS (Continued).

A curious Ant from India (*Myrmica Kirbii*).—Locality of its Nest.—Description of the Nest, its Material, and Mode of Structure.—A nocturnal Misadventure.—The DRIVER ANT of Africa.—Description of the Insect.—Reason for its Name.—Its general Habits.—Destructive Powers of the Driver Ant.—How the Insects devour Meat and convey it Home.—How they kill Snakes.—Native Legend of the Python.—Their Mode of March.—Fatal Effects of the Sunbeams.—An extemporized Arch.—Method of escaping from Floods.—Site of their Habitation.—Modes of destroying them.—Living Ladders and their Structure.—Method of crossing Streams.—Tenacity of Life.—A decapitated Ant.—Mode of Biting.—Description of the Insect.—Curious Nest of a Brazilian Wasp.—Weight of the Nest and Method of Attachment.—Variety of Polistes Nest.—*Polistes aterrimus* and its singular Nest.—Beautiful Structure of an unknown Polistes..... 468

CHAPTER XXV.

PARASITIC NESTS.

Various Parasites.—Parasitic Birds.—The CUCKOO and its Kin.—The COW-BIRD and its Nest.—Size of its Egg.—Comparison between the Cuckoo and the Apteryx.—The ÆPTORNIS.—The BLUE-FACED HONEY-EATER or BATIKIN.—General Habits of the Bird.—Singular Mode of Nesting.—The SPARROW-HAWK and its parasitic Habits.—The KESTREL, its Quarrel with a Magpie.—The PURPLE GRACKLE or CROW BLACKBIRD.—Its curious Alliance with the Osprey.—Wilson's Account of the two Birds.—The SPARROW as a Parasite.—Curious Behavior of the STORK.—Parasitic Insects.—The ICHNEUMON FLIES.—The Parasite of the CABBAGE CATERPILLAR.—Its Numbers and Mode of making its Habitation.—Trap-doors of the Cells.—The Australian Cocoon and its Parasites.—The OAK-EGGER MOTH, its Cocoons and Enemies.—The PUSS MOTH.—Its remarkable Cocoon.—Powerful Jaws of the Parasite.—RUBY-TAILED FLIES and their Victims.—Modes of Usurpation.—The CUCKOO FLIES or Tachinæ.—Parasites within Pupæ.—Parasites on Vegetables.—The GALL FLIES and their Home.—British Galls, their Shapes, Structures, and Authors.—Foreign Galls, and their Uses..... 487

CHAPTER XXVI.

PARASITIC NESTS (*Continued*).

The Oak-tree, and its Aptitude for nourishing Galls.—COMPOUND GALLS, or one Gall within another.—The SENSITIVE GALL of Carolina.—The Fungus of Wine-vaults.—Galls and the Insects which caused them.—Colors of Galls.—Whence derived.—The Galls of various Trees and Plants.—The Cynips parasites upon an Insect.—Galls produced by other Insects.—Mr. Rennie's Account of the BEETLE GALL of the Hawthorn.—The BEETLE GALL of the Thistle.—DIPTEROUS GALL-MAKERS.—Leaf-miners and Galls.—Size of the Larvæ of Leaf-miners.—The perfect Insect and their Beauty.—Method of displaying the Insect.—SOCIAL LEAF-MINERS.—DIPTEROUS LEAF-MINERS.—Animal Galls.—The CHIGOE and its Habits.—Its curious Egg-sac.—Difficulty of extirpating it.—The Penalty of Negligence.—The BREEZE FLIES and their Habitations.—WURBLES and their Origin.—Their influence upon Cattle.—The CLERUS and its Ravages among the Hives.—The DRILUS, its remarkable Form, and the difference between the Sexes.—The curious Habitation which it makes Page 517

CHAPTER XXVII.

BRANCH-BUILDING MAMMALIA.

The DORMOUSE in Confinement and at Liberty.—Nest of the Dormouse.—Its Position, Materials, and Dimensions.—Entrance to the Nest.—The winter Treasury.—The LOIRE and the LEROT.—Man as a Branch-builder.—Moselekatze.—His Conquests.—Effects upon the People.—Branch-houses.—Their Approaches.. 531

CHAPTER XXVIII.

FEATHERED BRANCH-BUILDERS.

The ROOK and its Nesting-place.—Materials and Structure of the Nest.—Some Habits of the Rook.—The CROW.—Difference between the Nest of the Rook and the Crow.—The HERON and its Mode of Nidification.—The Heronry at Walton Hall.—Rustic Ideas respecting the Heron's Nest.—The CHAFFINCH.—Locality and Structure of its beautiful Nest.—Mode of obtaining Materials.—The GOLDFINCH and its Home.—Distinction between the Nests of the Goldfinch and Chaffinch.—The BULLFINCH.—Locality and Form of its Nest.—Variability of Structure.—The BLUE-EYED YELLOW WARBLER.—Curious Materials of its Nest.—Its remarkable Habits.—The BALD-HEADED EAGLE.—Why so called.—Wilson and Audubon's Account of its Nest.—The GOLDEN ORIOLE and its beautiful Nest.—Mode of catching the Bird.—The RED-WINGED STARLING, its Value and Demerits.—Its gregarious Habits.—Locality and Structure of its Nest.—The YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT and its odd Ways.—Its Courage and Affection for its Nest and Young.—Structure of its Nest.—The RINGDOVE and its curious Nest.—The WHITETHROAT.—Description of the Locality and Structure of the Nest.—Reasons for its various popular Names.—The MOCKING-BIRD.—The WATER HEN and its Nesting.—Its habit of covering the Eggs..... 538

CHAPTER XXIX.

FEATHERED BRANCH-BUILDERS (*Continued*).

The SEDGE WARBLER.—Its Nest and Loquacity.—The REED WARBLER.—Use of its peculiar Tail.—Localities haunted by the Bird.—Song of the Reed Warbler.—Its deep and beautifully-balanced Nest.—Color of the Eggs.—The INDIGO BIRD.—The CAPOCIER.—Familiarity of the Bird.—Le Vaillant's Experiments.—

How the Nest is made.—Division of Labor.—Lover's Quarrels.—Structure of the Nest.—Humming-birds again.—The FIERY TOPAZ.—Its nocturnal Habits.—Appearance of the Nest.—Its Shape, and the Materials of which it is made.—The HERMIT HUMMING-BIRDS and their Nests.—The RUBY-THROATED HUMMING-BIRD.—Variable Dimensions of the Nest.—Concealment.—Mr. Webber and his Discoveries.—Variable Form and Positions of the Nest.—Materials of which it is made.—Its deceptive Exterior.—Feeding of the Young.—The VERVAIN HUMMING-BIRD.—How the Nest assumes its Shape.—The RED-BACKED SHRIKE.—Use of the Shrike in Falconry.—Their singular Mode of Feeding.—Impaled Prey.—Conspicuous Character of the Nest.—Popular Ideas concerning the Red-backed Shrike.—Structure of the Nest.—The HEDGE SPARROW.—Its proper Title.—Carelessness about its Nest.—Foes of the Hedge Sparrow.—Its Fecundity....Page 564

CHAPTER XXX.

BRANCH-BUILDERS.

SPIDERS AND INSECTS.

Remarkable Spider Nests in the British Museum.—Seed-nests and Leaf-nests.—Nests of the TUFTED SPIDER.—Form and Coloring of the Spider.—Its curious Limbs.—Nests illustrative of the Hexagonal Principle.—Nest of the ICARIA.—The Equal Pressure and Excavation Theories.—Nest of MISCHOCITTARUS and its remarkable Form.—Nest of the RAPHIGASTER.—Summary of the Argument.—The PROCESSIONARY MOTH.—Reasons for its Name.—How the Larvæ march.—Damage done by them to Trees.—A natural Remedy.—The CALOSOMA and its Habits.—The GIPSY MOTH.—Its Ravages upon Trees and Mode of destroying it.—The Social Principle among Caterpillars.—Mr. Rennie's Experiments.—The LACKEY MOTH.—Supposed derivations of its popular Name.—The Eggs, Larvæ, and perfect Insects.—Habits of the Moth.—The BROWN-TAILED MOTH.—Locality where it is found.—Its Ravages abroad.—Nests of the ICARIA as they appear in Branches.—The APOICA: its remarkable Nests.—Singular Nests from the British Museum.—Nests discovered by Mr. Lord..... 582

CHAPTER XXXI.

MISCELLANEA.

The POLYZOA and their varied and beautiful Forms.—The RAFT SPIDER.—Why so called.—Mode of obtaining Prey.—Mice and their Homes.—The CAMPAGNOL or Harvest-mouse.—Its general Habits.—Its winter and summer Nest.—Its Store-house and Provisions.—Entrance to the Nest.—The WOOD MOUSE and its Nest.—Uses of the Field-mice.—The DOMESTIC MOUSE.—Various Nests.—Rapidity of Nest-building.—A Nest in a Bottle.—The Cell of the QUEEN TERMITE.—Its Entrances and Exits.—Size of the Inmates.—The FUNGUS ANT and its singular Home.—Material, Structure, and Size of the Nest.—The CLOTHES MOTHS and their various Species.—Habitations of the Clothes Moth, and the Method of Formation and Enlargement.—The ELK and its winter Home.—The SNOW Fortress and its Leaguers.—Its Use, Advantages, and Dangers.—The ALBATROSS and its Mode of Nesting.—Strange Scenes.—The EDIBLE SWALLOW.—Its Mode of Nesting.—Origin of its Name.—Description of the Nest.—Curious Legend respecting the Bird.—The EAGLE and its Mode of Nesting.—Difficulty of reaching the Eyrie.—The NIGHTINGALE and its Nest.—Other ground-building Birds and their temporary Homes.—The NODDY.—Perilous Position of the Eggs and Young.—The COOT, and its semi-aquatic Nest..... 608