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PREFACE

TO THE FIFTH EDITION.

SINCE the publication of the early editions of this tract, the habits and manners of animals have become a subject, in Natural History, of peculiar interest, from the discoveries of Drs. Gall and Spurzheim of Vienna, respecting the connection found to exist between the shape of the cranium and the instinctive propensities of the animal. The head of a swallow in this respect corresponds with the character of a migratory bird. The whole of this genus is endowed with an organization which, from analogy, we should infer as being capable of giving it a great power of local knowledge. It would be impossible in a few sheets to enter into the detail of this extensive and intricate subject; but the reader may consult the works written by Gall and Spurzheim jointly, and published at Paris, or the "Physiognomical System"