

ribs are united in front to the sternum by bony processes, somewhat analogous to the *costal-arcs* of the Plesiosaurus. The pectoral arch is distinguished by the prominent longitudinal keel or crest of the sternum; a structure designed to give attachment to the powerful pectoral muscles which move the wings, and which presents characteristic modifications in the different orders; and by the peculiar bone, termed the *furcula*, or merry-thought, which connects the clavicles. The bones of the anterior extremities are modified to adapt these instruments for the purposes of flight, and those of the fore-arm (the *radius* and *ulna*) are very long and firmly united together; the ulna has a row of slight eminences for the attachment of the quills of the secondary feathers. The wrist, or *carpus*, is composed of but two bones, articulated to the radius and ulna, and which admit only of a *lateral* movement, by which the wings are folded close to the body. The bones of the hinder extremities consist of the thigh or *femur*; the leg-bones, *tibia* and *fibula*, the latter very small, and anchylosed to the former; and of a *single shank-bone*, which supplies the place of the tarsal and metatarsal bones of other animals. This bone is articulated at its upper extremity to the tibia, and terminates at the lower end in distinct processes, which correspond in number with the toes; each process having a groove for the pulley or tendon that moves the corresponding toe. This construction is peculiar to birds; for although in