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- Oxygen. A gas which is a principal constituent of the atmospheric air.
- PACHYDERMS. (*παχυσ*, thick; and *δερμα*, the skin.)
A name applied to a group of mammiferous animals, comprising some with a very thick skin, such as the elephant, the rhinoceros, and the hippopotamus, 162
- Palæontology. (*παλαιος* ancient; *οντα*, beings; and *λογος*, discourse.) The science of fossil remains, both animal and vegetable.
- Pantheistic. Confounding God with the universe: supposing the universe to be God, 176
- Parasitical. (*παρα*, by; and *σιτος*, sustenance.)
In botany, a parasite is a plant growing on the stem or branch of another plant, from which it derives nourishment. In zoology, animals are said to be parasites when they attach themselves to, and live at the expense of other animals.
- Pectoral Fins. The fins which are situated at the sides of a fish, behind the gills, 175
- Pelvis. (*Pelvis*.) The cavity of the body formed by the os sacrum, os coccyx, and ossa innominata, forming the lower part of the abdomen.—*Webster*, 79
- Petrified. (*Petra*, a rock; *facio*, to make.) See remarks on Petrification, page 7.
- Phillips, Professor. On the gradual enrichment of organisation, 104