in life, yet are inherited at the same period at which they first appeared.

In the Lambert family the porcupine-like excrescences appeared in the father and sons at the same age, namely, about nine weeks after birth.[30] In the extraordinary hairy family described by Mr. Crawfurd,[31] children were produced during three generations with hairy ears; in the father the hair began to grow over his body at six years old; in his daughter somewhat earlier, namely, at one year; and in both generations the milk teeth appeared late in life, the permanent teeth being afterwards singularly deficient. Greyness of hair at an unusually early age has been transmitted in some families. These cases border on diseases inherited at corresponding periods of life, to which I shall immediately refer.

It is a well-known peculiarity with almond-tumbler pigeons, that the full beauty and peculiar character of the plumage does not appear until the bird has moulted two or three times. Neumeister describes and figures a brace of pigeons in which the whole body is white except the breast, neck, and head; but in their first plumage all the white feathers have coloured edges. Another breed is more remarkable: its first plumage is black, with rusty-red wing-bars and a crescent-shaped mark on the breast; these marks then become white, and remain so during three or four moults; but after this period the white spreads over the body, and the bird loses its beauty.[32] Prize canary-birds have their wings and tail black: "this colour, however, is only retained until the first moult, so that "they must be exhibited ere the change takes place. Once "moulted, the peculiarity has ceased. Of course all the birds "emanating from this stock have black wings and tails the first year."[33] A curious and somewhat analogous account has been given[34] of a family of wild pied rooks which were first observed in 1798, near Chalfont, and which every year from that date up to the period of the published notice, viz., 1837, "have several of their "brood particoloured, black and white. This variegation of the "plumage, however, disappears with the first moult; but among "the next young families there are always a few pied ones." These changes of plumage, which are inherited at various corresponding periods of life in the pigeon, canary-bird, and rook, are remarkable, because the parent-species passes through no such change.

Inherited diseases afford evidence in some respects of less value

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[30] Prichard, 'Phys. Hist. of Mankind,' 1851, vol. i. p. 349.

[31] 'Embassy to the Court of Ava,' vol. i. p. 320. The third generation is described by Capt. Yule in his 'Narrative of the Mission to the Court of Ava,' 1855, p. 94.

[32] 'Das Ganze der Taubenzucht,' 1837, s. 24, tab. iv., fig. 2; s. 21, tab. i., fig. 4.

[33] Kidd's 'Treatise on the Canary,' p. 18.

[34] Charlesworth, 'Mag. of Nat. Hist.,' vol. i. 1837, p. 167.