Animals, like the hare, in which, from the great length of the hinder limbs, the posterior half of the body is higher than the anterior, run much better up an acclivity than on level ground. In a descent, on the contrary, they are obliged to pursue an oblique and zig-zag course, otherwise they would be in danger of oversetting, as happens occasionally to the *Agouti* and the *Guinea pig*, when these animals attempt to run down hill.

The *Sloth*, which is formed for clinging with great tenacity to the boughs of trees, presents a remarkable contrast to the animals we have just noticed; its fore legs being much longer than the hinder, and its movements being proverbially slow. The peculiar modifications of its muscular powers are probably consequences of the singular mode in which, as I shall afterwards have occasion to notice, its arteries are distributed.

The *Cameleopard*, likewise, has the fore legs much longer than the hinder. The object of this conformation was probably to elevate the anterior part of the spine, so as to raise the head as much as possible, and also to give a considerable inclination to the whole column, for the purpose of distributing more equally the weight of the head and of the very long neck upon all the legs; for the length of the neck is fully equal to that of the trunk. It is evident that if the body had been placed in the usual horizontal position, the anterior extremities would have had to support the whole of the enormous weight of this neck and head. This peculiarity of structure, however, introduces considerable modifications in the mode of progression of the animal. The ordinary pace of the cameleopard is the amble; but it has also a slower walking pace, and occasionally a gallop. In the amble, its undulation is so considerable as to give it the appearance of being lame. A similar kind of limping gait, arising from the same cause, namely, the disproportionate elevation of the fore part of the spine, has been observed in the *Hyena*.