

fossil; and with what degree of accuracy each may be defined. The former may be known by referring to the 1st Table of the annexed system of External Characters, which contains all the generic characters; and the latter may be learned by consulting the particular definition of each generic character as contained in the preceding chapter, in which may be found whatever respects their definition.

It is hence that the External Descriptions derive their completeness and accuracy; without which they would be totally useless.

SECOND GENERAL RULE.

§. 260.

*The External Characters appertaining to an External Description should follow each other in systematic order; i. e. in their natural order.*

It is therefore acting contrary to this principle when some of the External Characters which constitute the External Conception of a fossil are introduced in the genus, some in the species, and others in the varieties; as also when they are not arranged in the proper order, so that characters which immediately strike the senses are placed in the middle, or even at the latter end of the Description.

The following advantages arise from the observance of this rule: 1st. such a description is surveyed

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