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NATURAL HISTORY  
OF  
*BIRDS, FISH, REPTILES, &c.*

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MULTIVALVE SHELL-FISH.

**T**HE covering of the *Multivalve* shell-fish is so singularly formed, as not to give the least reason to suppose from its outward appearance, that it contains a living animal, and much less (when that fact is ascertained) that the animal within is capable of moving its unwieldy habitation with any degree of speed, and yet both are equally true. Of this class of shell-fish there are two kinds, the one which moves about, and the other which is nearly stationary. The first are generally denominated *echini*, or *sea-urchins*, though sometimes known by the name of *sea-eggs*; and the latter, *pholades*, or *file-fish*. These have been often admired for the facility with which they scoop out