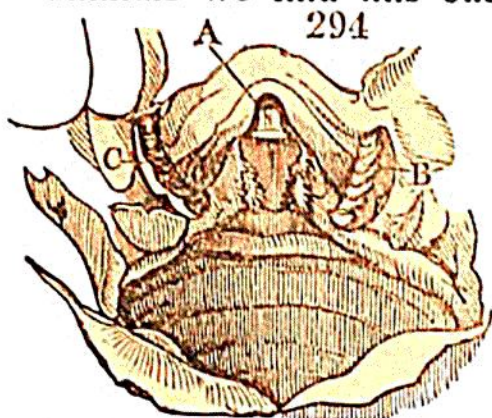


mouth, or entrance into the alimentary canal, for in many animals we find this office performed by interior organs.



Among the inferior classes, we meet examples of this conformation in the Crustacea, the Mollusca, and above all in Insects. Thus, there is found in the stomach of the Lobster, a cartilaginous frame-work, in which are implanted hard calcareous bodies,

having the form, and performing the functions of teeth. They are delineated in Fig. 294, which presents a view of the interior of the stomach of that animal. The tooth *A* is situated in the middle of this frame, has a rounded conical shape, and is smaller than the others (*B*, *C*), which are placed one on each side, and which resemble in their form broad molar teeth. When these three teeth are brought together by the action of the surrounding muscles, they fit exactly into each other, and are capable of grinding and completely pulverizing the shells of the mollusca introduced into the stomach. These teeth are the result of a secretion of calcareous matter from the inner coat of that organ, just as the outer shell of the animal is a production of the integument: and at each casting of the shell, these teeth, together with the whole cuticular lining of the stomach to which they adhere, are thrown off, and afterwards renewed by a fresh growth of the same material. In the Craw-fish, the gastric teeth are of a different shape, and are more adapted to divide than to grind the food.

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Among the gasteropodous Mollusca, several species of *Bulla* have stomachs armed with calcareous plates, which act as cutting or grinding teeth. The *Bulla aperta* has three instruments of this description, as may be seen in Fig. 295, which shows the interior of the stomach of that species. Similar organs are found in the *Bulla lig-*