

till it terminates in the smallest chamber at the inner extremity of the shell. I shall presently attempt to show how by means of a peculiar fluid, admitted into or abstracted from this pipe, the animal has the power to increase or diminish its specific gravity, and to sink or float accordingly; as the floating portion of that beautiful toy the Water balloon is made to descend or ascend by means of water forced into, or abstracted from its interior. (See P. 327.)

The motion of the Nautilus, when swimming, with its arms extended, is retrograde, like that of the naked Cuttle Fish, being produced by the reaction of water, violently ejected from the funnel (k).

The position assumed during this operation is that which is best adapted to facilitate its passage through the water, as it places foremost that part of the shell, which approaches most nearly in form to the prow of a boat. The fingers and tentacula (p, p), are here represented as closed around the beak, which is consequently invisible; when the animal is in action, they are probably spread forth like the expanded rays of the sea Anemone.

The horny beak of this recent Nautilus (See Pl. 31, Fig. 2, 3) resembles the bill of a Parrot. Each mandible is armed in front, with a hard and indented calcareous point, adapted to the office of crushing shells and crustaceous animals, of which latter, many fragments were found in the stomach of the individual here represented.