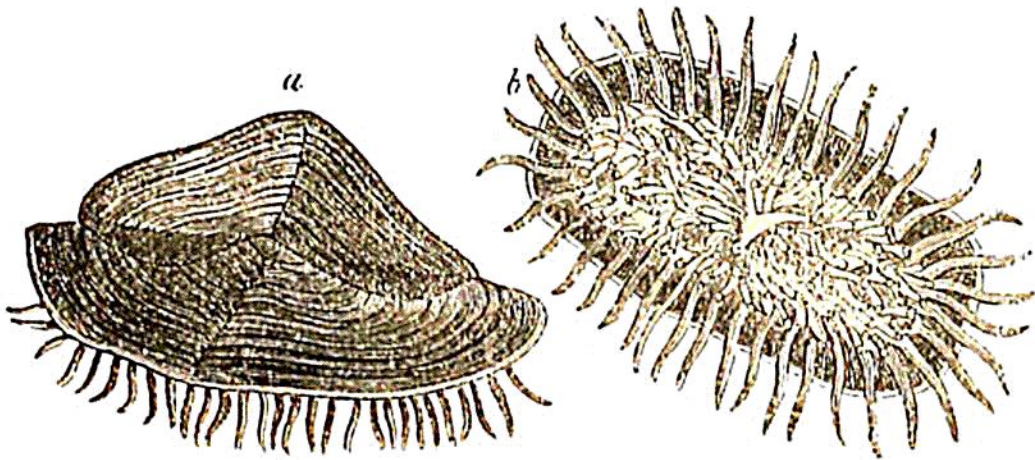


Fig. 11.



Veella. *a.* Upper surface. *b.* Under surface, showing the nutritive suckers.

2. The *Echinoderms* have an opaque, leathery, or crustaceous skin, mostly covered with tubercles, or even moveable spines, and generally pierced with holes, disposed in rows; retractile tubes, which respire the water and are used also for locomotion and prehension, emerge from these holes; a mouth generally situated below, and armed with hard parts; and a cavity simple or divided.

To begin with the *Gelatinæ*. In walking upon the seashore, I have occasionally remarked an animal of this tribe left by the waves, not much larger than a nutmeg, of a spherical form, with several longitudinal ridges, and nearly as transparent as the purest crystal. If at all injured by the touch, it immediately dissolved. Such delicate creatures has the Creator exposed to the action of the oceanic waves, and they sail gaily on, by means of their ciliated tails, receiving no injury, frail as they are, except in being sometimes cast upon the shore.* These lucid gems of the waters, which

* In the above description of the *Beroë* (*Cydippe pileus*), the author has hardly done justice to the admirable mechanism exhibited by these stars of ocean. Passing from pole to pole of the translucent orb that forms the body of the little animal are eight transparent ridges, that support as many rows of broad transparent paddles, all instinct with life; these by their rapid motion make the animal glide meteor-like along. By day-light they are only visible from the bright rainbow hues that mark their path, but in the night they blaze with phosphorescent fire. Man justly boasts