

and *Conchifers*.\* The absence of a head from the animals of the bivalve and multivalve shells is certainly a circumstance which, at the first blush, appears to justify their separation *classically* from the other Molluscans; but when we compare other characters, we shall find many that are common to both, particularly their nervous system, which is the same both in the Conchifers and Molluscans of Lamarck; for neither of these exhibit a medullary ganglionic chord, but only dispersed ganglions which send forth the requisite nerves; both have a double or bilobed mantle, gills on each side, and a heart and circulation. The *Cirripedes* indeed seem to be of a higher grade, at least their nervous system is more perfect—since they have a longitudinal double nervous chord with ganglions, a mouth furnished with toothed jaws disposed by pairs, and *jointed* tendril-like organs about the mouth—and approaches near to that of the Annulose animals,† the *Condylopes* of Latrielle. These, therefore, may be considered as properly entitled to the denomination of a class; but should not be placed at a distance from the Crustaceans, to which Lamarck, with reason, thinks they make a near approach, as they are by Cuvier and Carus. In fact, they seem to have little to do with the bivalve Molluscans, except in being defended by more than one shell, and having no head.

I shall now mention the most prominent characters of those shell-fish that I regard as strictly entitled to the denomination of *Molluscans*.

ANIMAL soft, without articulations. *Mantle* bilobed, enveloping more or less the animal. *Gills* varying. A *heart* and circulation. No *medullary chord* with *ganglions*, but a few scattered ganglions, from which issue *nerves* to various parts. *Body* commonly defended by a calcareous *shell*, to which it adheres only by one or two points, but

\* Conchifera.

† Annulosa.