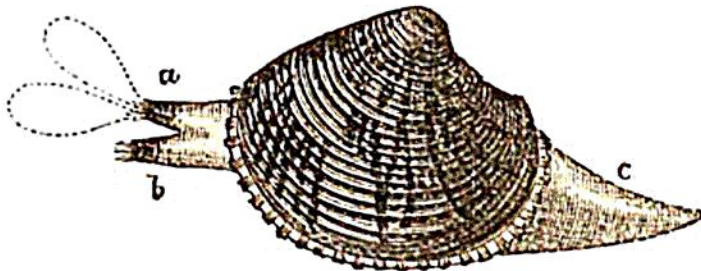


in some instances it is externally naked, and has an internal shell.

The Molluscans may be divided into several families, and those of Cuvier are mostly natural; but as my plan has been to ascend from the lowest grade of animals towards the highest, I shall reverse this order, and begin my observations with the last of his families, or more properly speaking *Orders*, excluding for the present the *Cirripedes* of Lamarck, or most of the multivalves of Linné, as leading off laterally towards the Crustaceans.

Fig. 30.



Venus Gallina.

His first order he calls *Acephales*, or headless Molluscans; it includes all the bivalve shells of Linné, with the addition of the Pholads

or stone-borers.* Lamarck has divided it into two sections, which, regarding it as a class, are with him *orders*; the first is *Bimuscular*,† having *two* attaching muscles and *two* muscular impressions; and the second is *Unimuscular*,‡ having only *one* such muscle with *one* impression. With regard to their habits and economy, the bivalve Molluscans may also be divided into *two* sections, the *first* of which may consist of those that enclose themselves either in a cell or burrow, or live in the mud, &c.; and the *second* of those that fix themselves to the rocks, stones, and other substances, by means of a *Byssus*, which they have the faculty of spinning from their foot or other part; or by a *tendinous ligament*, which they protrude through an orifice in their shell.

The general habit of the *first* family, including a vast variety of forms, seems to be that of *biting* and *burrowing*,

* Pholads.

† Conchifères dimyaires.

‡ C. monomyaires.