

shell differs from the under, either in size or other particulars; in the scallop shells it is much flatter, and more ornamented as to colouring; and in the animal itself it is not a general principle that each part shall have its counterpart, or, if single, that the two sides shall exactly correspond. This furnishes some addition to the other proofs of the superiority of the Insect over the Molluscan tribes; symmetry, especially of the external organs and parts, distinguishes all the higher classes from man downwards; but is continued in the invertebrate sub-kingdom no further than the Condylopes, when it is interrupted or altogether ceases. It must be observed, however, that in the animal of the univalves, a beginning of symmetrical organs appears in the tentacles, which are in pairs mutually corresponding, a circumstance not discoverable in the bivalves.

The scallop shells were considered by Linné as belonging to the same genus with the oyster, which he regarded as a kind of rustic tribe belonging to it; but they not only differ widely in their shells, but also in the animal they contain. The mantle of the former is stated to be composed of two large membranes surrounded with long white hairs, and with pedunculated eyes: whence Poli denominated the animal of this shell "*Argus*;" but these assuredly are not real *eyes*, but probably eye-like organs or tentacles, useful to the animal, perhaps, as organs of investigation and prehension, but not of vision. Lamarck; who does not, *in loco*, mention this formation of the animal of the scallop shells, observes that the *Spondyls** have the margin of the mantle furnished with two rows of tentacular threads, a structure that seems to indicate some investigating office or prehensory function resident in that part; perhaps, like the tentacles of the polypes, they may seize animalcules. The animal of the oyster has nothing akin to this; a sufficient proof, added to

* Spondylus.