

and appears only during the warmest hours of the day on the surface.

Other genera of this Order are covered by a shell or shells. Of this kind is the genus *Hyalæa*, so named from its semi-transparent shell, which wears the appearance of a bivalve with soldered valves, the upper one being the largest; this difference of size of the seeming valves causes an aperture through which the animal sends forth two large yellow and violet wings, or sails, rounded and divided at their summit into three lobes. The head in this genus is almost evanescent, so that both shell and head exhibit an easy transition from the acephalous or bivalve Molluscs to those which have a head. When its wings or sails are unfolded, it moves with great velocity on the surface of the sea. The animals of this Order, both from the beautiful colouring of their filmy sails or wings, and from their number and symmetry, are better entitled to the appellation of the butterflies of the ocean, than the scallop shells which have sometimes been so called. The mantle of the bivalves becomes an organ of very different use in the *Pteropods*; for they, having no means of fixing themselves like most of the bivalves, float continually in the ocean; to compensate for this want, as in innumerable other instances, their Creator has given them the power of expanding this organ as a sail, both for motion and to give some direction to their course; it is attached to the mouth or neck, and is connected in some species with their respiration. Nothing certain is known with respect to their food: probably they absorb the animalcules swarming in the sea-water.\*

\* Recent observations have shown that the Pteropod Molluscs are much more highly gifted animals than is represented in the text. From a memoir on the structure of the *Clio Borealis*, by Professor Eschricht of Copenhagen, it appears that the locomotive organs or wing-like appendages attached to