

some sort, to pursue their prey; their tentacles, also, from their greater length, seem to further this end: these, according to Poli's metaphor above alluded to, they can throw out and draw in laden with fry, as a fisherman does his net. When their prey is in their mouth, it is subjected to the action of their toothed jaws, which seem more numerous and powerful than those of the Balanites; and as the valves forming the shell are more numerous and connected by membrane, and the whole shell more compressed than the operculum of the last-named animals, we may suppose that they are capable of a more varied action, and one that may perhaps add to the momentum of the masticating organs. Hence we may conjecture, that the animals destined to form their nutriment may be larger, so as to require more exertion and force, both to take and to masticate.

In the other Order, the structure of the *Balanites* seems to indicate merely the protrusion and employment of their tentacles; and being usually attached to floating bodies, such as the hulls of ships, or parasitic upon locomotive animals, riding as they do upon the back of the turtle, the dolphin, and the whale, they may visit various seas in security, and feast all the while, with little trouble and exertion, upon animalcules of every description, the produce of arctic, temperate, and tropical seas.

With respect to their place in nature, it seems not quite clear whether they should be regarded as leading from the Molluscans, with which Cuvier arranges them, towards the Crustaceans, and they certainly seem to have organs borrowed from both; their shells and mantle in some degree from one, and their palpigerous mandibles and jointed organs, proceeding in pairs from a common footstalk—like the interior antennæ of the lobster—and knotty spinal chord from the other: but with respect to their jointed