

organs, I must observe that they still more closely resemble those of some of the *Encrinetes*,* like them being fringed on each side, though not with organs of that description. A learned naturalist, Mr. W. S. Mac Leay, is of opinion that the Echinidans, or sea-urchins, exhibit some approximation to the *Balanites*.† If, indeed, we compare the genus *Coronula* with an *Echinus*, we shall discover several points in which their structure agrees. We learn from Lamarck, that the pieces of the so-called operculum, which close the mouth of the former shell, are affixed rather to the animal than to the shell. Thus the operculum, in some sort, represents the jaws of an *Echinus*, though consisting of fewer pieces, and the tube appears divided into alleys, like the crust of that animal. These circumstances seem to prove some affinity between the Cirripedes and Radiaries; they appear also to have some points in common with Savigny's Nereideans, especially *Amphitrite*.‡ Weighing all these circumstances, I have thought it best to place the Cirripedes immediately before the Entomostracan Crustaceans.

But what if these Cirripedes should at last prove to be, not the guides to the great Crustacean host, but its legitimate progeny? This has been asserted, at least partially, by a modern zoologist, who has assigned his reasons for this singular and startling opinion. I will not say the thing is impossible—for with God all things are possible—but it certainly appears in the highest degree improbable. That a *Zoea* should become a crab is sufficiently extraordinary, and an opinion, as Latreille remarks, which, if it be not erroneous, has great need of support from experiment:§ but that a locomotive animal, gifted with eyes and legs, should, by an extraordinary metamorphosis, in its perfect

* See fig. 65.

† Hor. Ent. i. 312.

‡ Ibid.

§ Cours D'Entomologie, i. 7.