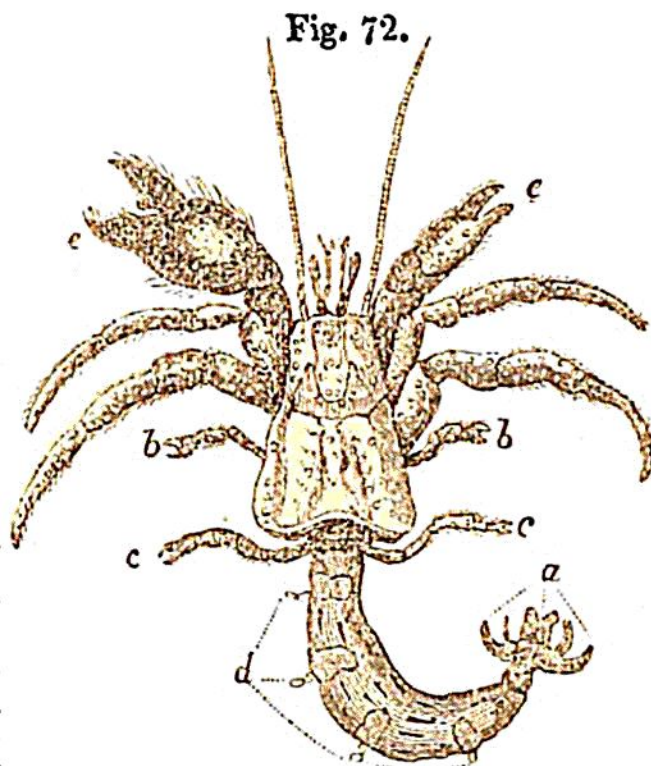


naked, and unprotected by any hard crust, their Creator has given them an instinct, which teaches them to compensate this seeming defect, by getting possession of some univalve shell, suited to their size, which becomes their habitation, and which they carry about with them as if they were its proper inhabitants. These crabs are particularly formed for the habit that distinguishes them. Their naked tail has a tendency to a spiral convolution, fitting them to inhabit spiral shells, which they usually select for their mansion, though, from recent observations, it has been found that any univalve will answer their purpose. Their tail is terminated by an apparatus of moveable and hard pieces,* which appear intended to enable the animal to fix itself more firmly in the spire of the shell. Usually the right hand claw, which is disengaged from the shell, is double the size of the other which is not, and is that which is most employed; but in narrow-mouthed shells, such as the volute, in which Freycinet found one,† both claws are disengaged, and are of equal size. The reason of this formation is evident. The fourth and fifth pairs of legs‡ are much smaller and shorter than the anterior ones; they have, below the claw, a piece resembling a rasp, which appears formed to assist them in moving in the shell, whether they wish to move outwards or inwards;



Pagurus Clibanarius.

- a. a. a. Adhesive organs at the tail.
- b. b. c. c. Two last pairs of thoracic legs, by which it also adheres to the shell it inhabits.
- d. d. Egg-bearers.
- e. e. Chelæ, or large pincers.

* Fig. 72, a. a. a.

† Pagurus clibanarius.

‡ Fig. 72, b b. c c.