

the capture or transmission of its food: but whether either set of tentacles is used in its locomotions, as they are in the naked Cephalopods and the Argonaut, seems very problematical.

As far as its locomotion on a surface is concerned, in its hood, it appears to be furnished with an expansile foot, approaching that of the *Gastropods*,* so that its tentacles seem not necessary to transport it from place to place on the bed of the ocean: by what means it elevates itself, as it is known to do, to the surface, and floats upon the waves, has not been ascertained.

In comparing the organs that surround the mouth of the Nautilus with those of other Cephalopods, we see that a vast change has taken place. They are no longer the principal organs of locomotion, that function being transferred to an expansile foot; their number is increased in nearly a tenfold ratio: being deprived of suckers, they seem destitute of any powerful means of prehension and retention, and so are scarcely able to overcome the resistance of the larger Crustaceans. As their principal organ of locomotion is one that seems to preclude all idea of rapid motion in pursuit of their prey, it is most probable, as their mandibles are fitted for crushing crust or shell, that certain Molluscs, animals which must be equally slow in their motions, and can scarcely resist them, are their destined food.

We may further observe that, regard being had to the organs which surround the mouth, a very wide interval separates the great body of the Cephalopods, known in a recent state, from the animal now before us; even the *Spirula*, which Mr. Owen conjectures may belong to the same Order, in this respect is formed upon a very different type, precisely that of those Cephalopods.†

This animal, in the above respect, being so completely

* Owen's Memoir, &c. 12. t. i. n.

† Fig. 26.