

glove; in others they appear to be composed of longitudinal fibres, intersected by annular ones, which render them capable of great extension. In form they are either filiform, setaceous, or conical; but in the remarkable genus *Laplysia*, or the Sea-hare, the upper pair are shaped like the ears of the animal from which they take their name. Their sense of touch is much more delicate than that of the rest of the body. They are intimately connected with what are usually deemed the organs of sight of the Univalve Molluscans, which, in some genera, they seem to enclose. Some of these eyes are placed, in the form of a black pupil, at the summit of the tentacle, which surrounds them as the iris does the pupil of the perfect eye; in others they are imbedded in the middle of that organ, and in others at its base; in some, as in the Sea-ear,* they are seated in a separate footstalk. In many of the carnivorous species the pupil is surrounded by an iris,† which seems to indicate that the tentacles perform, in some sort, the functions of that part of the eye. The upper pair of tentacles in the Molluscans seem analogues of the *antennæ* of Condylopes, and the lower pair of their *feelers*; and the functions for which the Creator has formed and fitted both are probably not very dissimilar. The extreme irritability of the tentacles of snails and slugs is evident to every one who observes their motion: at the approach of a finger they are immediately retracted; they therefore give notice to the animal of the approach of danger, so as to provide against it, and when necessary to withdraw itself into its shell: the eyes, from their situation in many of them, supposing them to have a greater range and power of vision than they appear to have, cannot direct them in the choice of their food, in these their lower tentacles may have this office. Snails and slugs, we also know, issue forth from their

* *Haliotis*.

† Fig. 43. a.