

power of adhesion, both when the animal is crawling, and also when it fixes itself on any surface. In the *Patella*, or limpet, this adhesion is greatly favoured by the conical form of the shell, which, having a circular base, enables the muscles of the disk, by their efforts to create a vacuum underneath it, to command the whole hydrostatic pressure of the superincumbent water, as well as of the atmosphere above the water. Besides the muscular bands contained in the substance of the foot, other sets of fibres are provided for the purpose of protruding or of retracting the whole member, and of moving it in different directions.

The foot of the *Buccinum undatum*, or Whelk, is capable of great dilatation by means of four tubes, which open from the surface near the gullet, and convey into it a large quantity of water. It may, by this means, be distended to a size even greater than the shell itself; so that the opening which it forms in the sand is large enough to receive the shell, when the latter is drawn down by the contraction of the muscles which are attached to the foot.\* The foot of the *Scyllæa* is grooved, for the purpose of enabling the animal to lay hold of the stems and branches of marine plants, and advance along them by a gliding motion.

The head is generally furnished with tubular tentacula, which the animal protrudes for the purpose of feeling its way as it advances, and which are quickly retracted, by the reversion of the tube, when they are touched or irritated. This mechanism is matter of familiar observation in the tentacula, or horns, of the snail and of the slug, which are terrestrial mollusca belonging to this order. The former of these has a turbinated shell of the ordinary structure: the latter, though extremely similar in its internal structure to the snail, is destitute of any external shell; but is furnished, instead of it, with a small internal plate of cartilage, giving support to some of the vital organs.

\* Osler, Phil. Trans. for 1826, p. 352.