

species found in the different groups of strata, and the terms, *Eocene*, *Miocene*, and *Pliocene*, (proposed by Mr. Lyell,) have reference to this character, as we have previously explained (see p. 31.).

The *Mollusca* (a name indicative of the soft nature of their external skin or integument,) constitute a very comprehensive subdivision of the animal kingdom. They are separable into two principal groups.

I. The ACEPHALA (so termed because they have no head) are without jaws, tongue, or distinct mouth. They are aquatic, and are subdivided into classes, according to the modification of their integument, or of their gills.

The TUNICATA (from the elastic *tunic*, or *mantle*, in which they are enclosed) have no shell, and therefore do not come within the scope of our inquiries: yet it is possible that the soft parts even of these perishable structures may have left some trace, or that markings of their trails on the slime or mud may be preserved; and I would recommend the student to search for such indications on the rippled surface of clays and sandstones.

The BRACHIOPODA (*arm-feet*) have two long spiral fleshy arms, or *brachia*, developed from the sides of the alimentary orifice, are enclosed in bivalve shells, and respire by means of their vascular