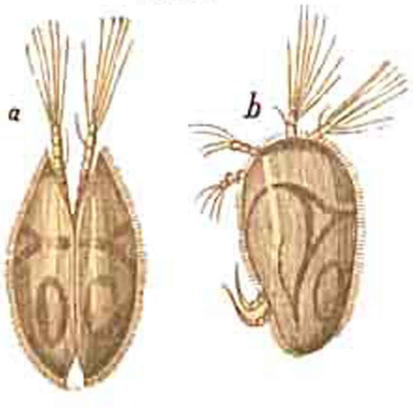
Fig. 80.

Stem and branches of Chara hispida.

a, Stem and branches of the natural size.
b, Section of the stem magnified.
c, Showing the central tube surrounded by two rings of smaller tubes.

at the end of which are fine pencils of hair, are the principal organs for swimming, and are moved with great rapidity. The animal resides within two small valves, not unlike those of a bivalve shell, and moults its integuments annually, which the conchiferous mollusks do not. The cast-off shells resembling thin scales, and occurring in countless myriads in many ancient freshwater marls, impart to them a divisional structure, like that so frequently derived from plates of mica.

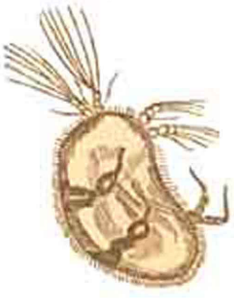
Fig. 81.



Cypris unifasciata, a living species, greatly magnified.

a, Upper part. *b*, Side view of the same.

Fig. 82.



Cypris vidua, a living species, greatly magnified.*

The recent strata of lacustrine origin above alluded to are of very small extent, but analogous deposits on the grandest scale are forming in the great Canadian lakes, as in Lakes Superior and Huron, where beds of sand and clay are seen inclosing shells of existing species. †

* See Desmarest's Crustacea, pl. 55.

† Dr. Bigsby, Journ. of Science, &c., No. xxxvii. pp. 262, 263.