

creature, is not merely got rid of, but is utilised, so as to be subservient to the movements of the animal. By ejecting the water through the funnel with force, it is, by the re-action of the surrounding medium, enabled to dart backward with amazing rapidity. This is its usual mode of locomotion, and nothing can surpass the ease and elegance of such movements. The common squid, or calamary, one of the cuttle-fish, visits the seas around Newfoundland, during the summer months, in vast shoals, which furnish the fishermen with a most valuable bait when prosecuting the cod-fishery. During a calm summer evening it is a most interesting sight to watch a shoal of these squids propelling themselves backwards over the surface of the sea. The body is just visible above the surface of the water; the head and funnel are hard at work below, like a hydraulic engine, ejecting the water, while the triangular fin, which forms the tail, acts the part of a front rudder, and directs the way. The squid can also move forward by means of the fin-like expansion of its tail, and sideways, by means of the side-fins, or expansions of the mantle. It can also, as we have seen, use its arms as legs and crawl along the sea-bed, with its head downward—a rather ludicrous method of locomotion. The backward motion, however, is that which is most graceful and natural in the squid.

Another remarkable peculiarity distinguishes the cuttle-fish. It is provided with a gland or "ink-sac," which secretes an inky fluid, by means of which it can darken the water and escape from its pursuers. A duct from this "ink-sac" opens into the funnel; and the animal can, at pleasure, squirt out the contents and envelope itself in a cloak of darkness. Formerly it was believed that the Chinese or Indian ink, so well known to artists, was made from the ink of the cuttle-fish, but this has been lately disproved, and it is known now that the Chinese ink is compounded solely from mineral matter. In Italy a similar ink, though not so black, is said to be prepared from that of the cuttle-fish, and probably resembles that which was used by the Greeks and Romans, derived from the same source. Cuvier is known to have used it to colour the plates for the memoirs of these animals. It is interesting to add that the ink-bag, having been found in a fossil state, in the Belemnite, a kind of Cephalopod which has been entombed in the solid rock for countless ages, Dr. Buckland presented some of it to Chantry, requesting him to ascertain its