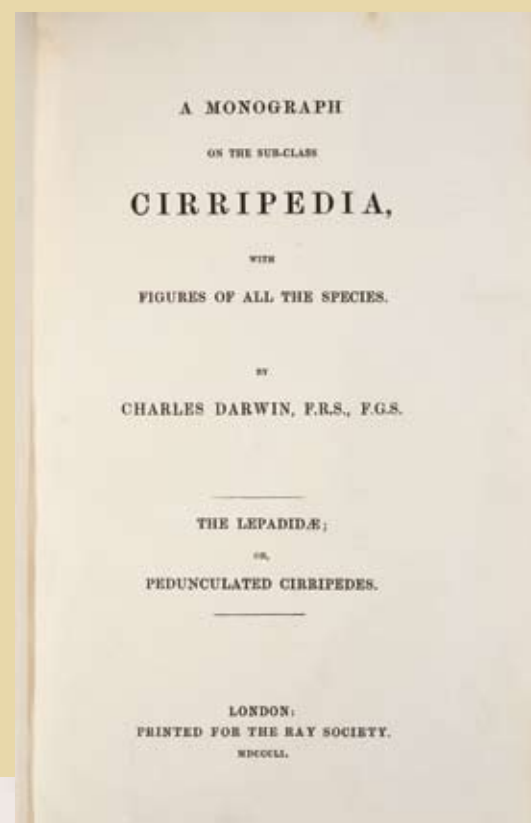


The Beauty of Barnacles



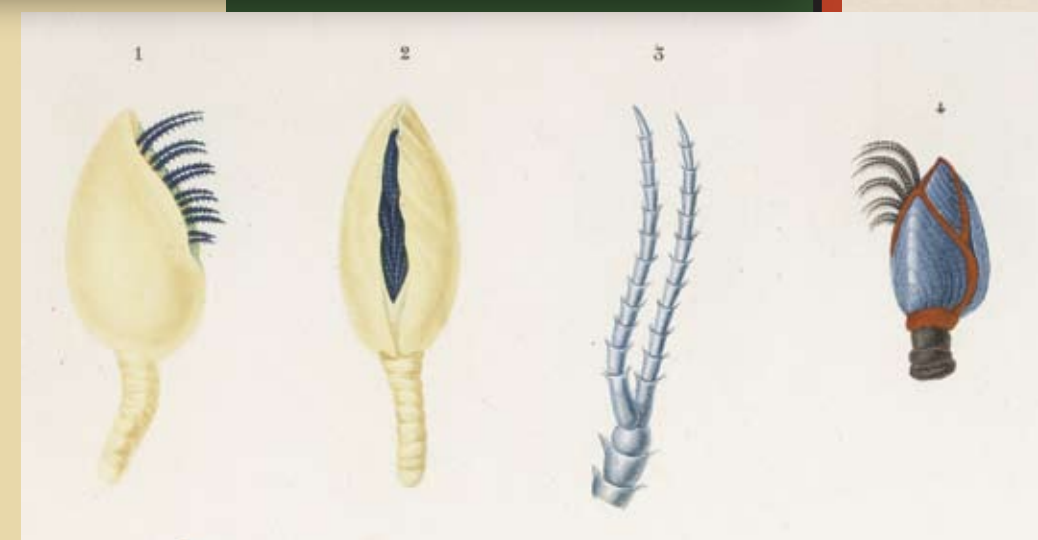
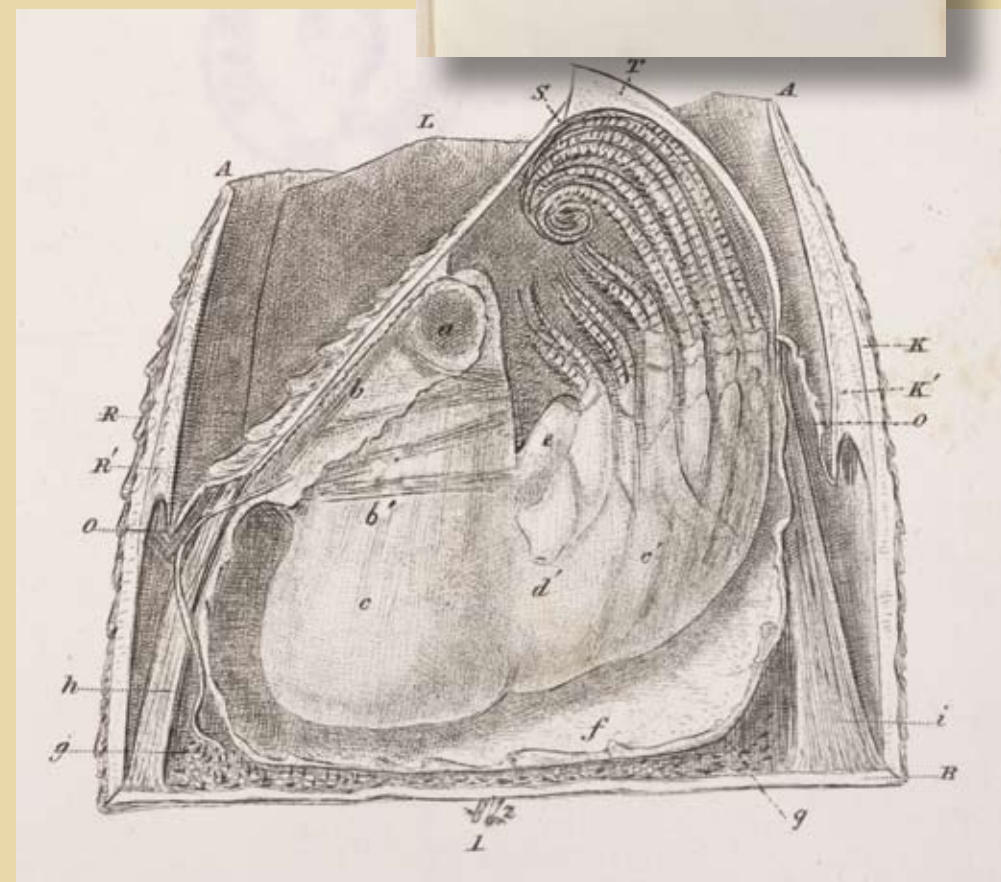
The
Grandeur
of
Life



Far Left: Title page of Charles Darwin, *A monograph on the sub-class Cirripedia*, 1851-54.

Left: *Pedunculated barnacle*, from Edward Donovan, *The natural history of British shells*, 1799-1803.

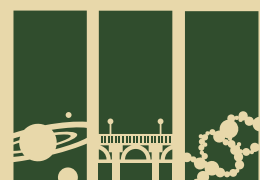
Lower Left: *Anatomy of a sessile barnacle*, from Charles Darwin, *A monograph on the sub-class Cirripedia*, 1851-54.



Above Right: *Parasitic barnacles, with cirri (appendages) improperly colored yellow*, from Louis Duperrey, *Voyage autour du monde...sur la corvette La Coquille*, *Zoology Atlas*, 1825-30.

Above Left: *Parasitic barnacle, with cirri correctly shown in blue*, from Jules Dumont d'Urville, *Voyage de la corvette l'Astrolabe*, *Zoology Atlas*, 1830-34.

Barnacles were not well understood when Darwin decided to sort them out. It had only recently been discovered that barnacles were crustacea, and not mollusks, and that they come in two forms, pedunculated (attached by an arm), and sessile (fixed). Darwin had brought back a few barnacles from the Beagle voyage, and as he attempted to identify a curious little parasitic specimen in his collection in 1845, he decided to learn more about them. The result, eight years later, was a two-volume major work, *A monograph on the sub-class Cirripedia* (1851-54; along with another two volumes on fossil barnacles). Darwin was now truly an expert in one branch of natural history, and thereby qualified, he thought, to express his views on the origin of species.



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