Mexico. The abyssal mollusca are by no means devoid of colour, though, as a rule, they are paler than those from shallow water. Dacrydium vitreum—a curious little mytiloid shell-fish which makes and inhabits a delicate flask-shaped tube of foraminifera,



Fig. 78.—Pleuronectia lucida, Jeffreys. Twice the natural size. a, from the Eastern Atlantic; b, from the Gulf of Mexico.

sponge spicules, coccoliths, and other foreign bodies, cemented together by organic matter and lined by a delicate membrane—is of a fine reddish brown colour dashed with green, from 2,435 fathoms; and the

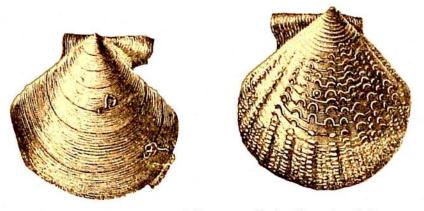


Fig. 79. -Peeten hoskynsi, Forbes. Twice the natural size.

animals of one or two species of *Lima* from extreme depths are of the usual vivid orange scarlet. Neither are the abyssal mollusca universally destitute of eyes. A new species of *Pleurotoma* from 2,090 fathoms had a pair of well-developed eyes on short footstalks; and