

Penna marina, *Sib. Scot.* ii. lib. tert. 28.—*P. rubra*, *Bohad.* Anim. Mar. 101, pl. 8. fig. 1-6.—*Pennatula phosphorea*. *Lin. Syst.* 1332. *Ellis* in *Phil. Trans.* liii. 420, pl. 19. fig. 1-5. *Mull. Zool. Dan.* prod. 255, no. 3075. *Turt. Gmel.* iv. 688. *Wern. Mem.* i. 565. *Turt. Brit. Faun.* 217. *Stew. Elem.* ii. 450. *Blumenb. Man.* 274. *Lam. Anim. s. Vert.* ii. 426. 2de edit. ii. 643. *Cuv. Reg. Anim.* iii. 318. *Bosc, Vers.* iii. 62, pl. 28, fig. 3, 4. (pessima) *Flem. Brit. Anim.* 507. *Stark, Elem.* ii. 420. *Johnston* in *Trans. Newc. Soc.* ii. 248, pl. 7. *Roget, Bridgew. Treat.* i. 174, fig. 71, 72. (bad.)—*P. rubra*, *Pall. Elench.* 368.—*P. Britannica*, *Ellis and Soland. Zooph.* 61.—*La Pennatule luisante*, *Blainv. Actinolog.* 517.

Hab. Deep water. "It is found in great plenty sticking to the baits on the fishermen's lines, round the coasts of this kingdom; especially when they make use of muscles to bait their hooks. Great numbers have been taken on the coast of Scotland, especially near Aberdeen," *Ellis*. Frith of Forth, *Jameson*. Coast of Berwickshire, abundant, *G. J.*

Our fishermen call this zoophyte the *Cock's-comb*, a name which is not unapt, but less expressive of its general form than that of *Sea-pen* conferred by naturalists. It is from two to four inches in length, and of a uniform purplish-red colour, except at the tip or base of the stalk, where it is pale orange-yellow. The skin is thickish, very tough, and of curious structure, being composed of minute crystalline cylinders, densely arranged in straight lines, and held together by a firm gelatinous matter or membrane. These cylinders are about six times their diameter in length, straight and even, or sometimes slightly curved and bulged, closely compacted yet distinct, and of a red colour, for the colour of the zoophyte is derived from them, and they are accordingly less numerous where the purple is faint or defective. They are apparently inorganic and calcareous, being dissolved, with effervescence, in the mineral acids.* Their form and arrangement is the same in every part of the skin; and the papillæ on the back of the rachis, as well as the polype-cells, are constructed of them, but none can be detected in the subcutaneous uncoloured gelatinous flesh.

The stalk is hollow in the centre, and contains a long slender bone, which is white, smooth, square, and tapered at each extremity

* Dr Coldstream, of Leith, on whose observations I place a greater reliance than on my own, writes me thus—"The spicula of the *Pennatula* appear to me to be *solid*. I have examined them with high powers, after having exposed them to a high temperature, and have not been able to see any evidence of a cavity within;—whether viewed with reflected or transmitted light they seemed to be opaque. When connected with the body of the animal, they certainly seem to be red, but a slight degree of heat is sufficient to bleach them."