

fervesce with acids. It is insoluble in boiling water and in alcohol, but dissolves slowly in acids, and in solutions of the alkalies. Its general appearance may be compared to that of the cases of *Tubularia indivisa*, except in point of colour."

"The case thus formed by the old shell and the horny membrane, and covered by the Actinia, I have *always* found inhabited by a variety of the hermit-crab."—"Its natural history is perhaps doubtful. Is the horny case secreted by the Actinia? Or is it the dead axis of some zoophyte, like that which covers old *Buccina* (*Alcyonium echinatum*, Fl.), and which I have found forming an extension of the body-whorl of the *Turbo littoreus*, also inhabited by the *Pagurus*? Or, is it likely that the old shell, with a young crab in it, may have been swallowed by the Actinia; that the crab may have forced its way through the walls of the stomach, and the integuments of the latter, and that, the Actinia then secreting a peculiar membrane to defend its base, the crab may have found itself provided with a habitation suited to its wants? To this last supposition an objection is found in the fact, that the full grown shell of *Trochus Magus* forms sometimes the base of the horny case, and this shell is too large to enter the mouth of the Actinia. It seems to be probable that the horny membrane is produced by the Actinia; and that its formation presents a striking instance of the operation of that beautiful law of Nature which makes the habits of one animal subservient to the wants of another."

Bohadsch, in his work *de Animalibus marinis*, has described a species nearly allied, if not identical with the above, under the name of *Medusa palliata*, p. 135 t. 11. f. 1: which is probably identical with the *Actinia picta* of Risso, *L'Europ, Merid.* v. 286. See also a notice by Professor Jameson in *Edin. New. Phil. Journ.* July 1830, p. 332.

20. ANTHEA,* Johnston.

CHARACTER. *Body cylindraceous, adhering by a broad base: tentacula disposed in circles round the mouth, elongated, tapered and incapable of being retracted within the body.*

* From *ἀνθος*—a flower: the name borrowed from Drayton—

"*Anthea*, of the flowers, that hath the general charge,

"And *Syrinx* of the reeds, that grow upon the marge."

The genus was first proposed, and indifferently characterized by Risso under the name of *Anemonia*, which being the same as *Anemone* must be rejected, for if new generic names formed by the misspelling of old ones were tolerated, confusion and barbarism would soon be the result.