

31. FOSSIL ZOOPHYTES.—Although many genera of polyparia are omitted in this brief sketch, I must pass without further comment to the consideration of the fossil zoophytes, of which, in this place, I purpose offering a cursory review. The formation of conglomerates, from the debris of corals and shells, has been fully explained in a former lecture (page 69). In the newer pliocene of Palermo many Mediterranean corals are imbedded. The blocks of silex, agate, and chalcedony, which are scattered over some districts in the West Indies, frequently contain meandrinæ, astreæ, and caryophylliæ, in a silicified state; and polished slices exhibit the internal structure of the corals in a highly beautiful manner, as may be seen in these specimens, presented me by the Hon. Mrs. Thomas, of Ratton, near Eastbourn. The Crag (page 206) abounds in flustræ, sertulariæ, and other genera of small polyparia, apparently of species that now inhabit the British seas. In the older tertiary the remains of turbinoliæ, caryophylliæ, astreæ, fungiæ, and of other genera, amounting to about thirty species, have been discovered.

32. ZOOPHYTES OF THE CHALK.—In the chalk formation the remains of this family occur in profusion. In the upper divisions, the Maestricht beds, the lamelliferous corals, as the astreæ, meandrinæ, fungiæ, (Tab. 50, page 307,) &c. prevail, and may be extracted from the friable arenaceous strata, in a fine state of preservation; the celluli-