

bones of a single encrinite may be numbered by tens of thousands, those of the pentacrinite amount to a hundred and fifty thousand; and as each bone must have had its appropriate muscles, the number of the latter, in a single pentacrinus, could not have been less than three hundred thousand.

Many other genera of this numerous family have been discovered, and are figured and described by Miller and other naturalists.* In some instances the body is closed up, the tentacula being retracted or bent inwards, as if the animal had been in the act of conveying prey to its mouth, at the very moment of its envelopment in its rocky sepulchre (Tab. 118, fig. 1). In other examples, the skeleton lies in relief, with the arms spread out as if the creature, while floating at its ease in the water, had been suddenly surrounded and entombed in the stone (Tab. 119). The elegant plumose encrinite termed *actinocrinites*,† occurs in a beautiful state of preservation in the mountain limestone; the form of the original is represented in this drawing (Tab. 118, fig. 2). The pelvis or body of the actinocrinite is constructed of numerous bones, which in many species are richly ornamented; while in another genus, the *cyatho-*

* For a more particular account of the natural history of this extraordinary tribe of animals, consult the second volume of Parkinson's *Organic Remains*; and Miller's *Natural History of the Crinoidea, or Lily-shaped Animals*, 1 vol. 4to. with numerous plates, 1821.

† *Actinocrinites*, signifying the radiated lily-shaped animal.