

form of a fig, with the upper part flattened, and possessing a central cavity; the lower and smaller end fixed by root-like processes. It is of a rich brown colour, and its substance, when dried, appears like that of nut-galls.* There are several species of Choanites in the chalk formation, but the most remarkable is that figured in the annexed lignograph 58, and which may be considered as the type of the genus. This zoophyte frequently occurs in the semi-diaphonous pebbles on the Sussex coast, and gives rise to such beautiful and varied markings, that polished sections are mounted for brooches and other ornaments, being termed by the lapidaries, *petrified sea-animal flowers*.† Among the shingle on the shore at Bognor, Worthing, and other places, very fine examples may be obtained. *Lign.* 58, fig. 4, represents the usual appearance of a siliceous Choanite. Fig. 2. is the upper part of a Choanite preserved in chalk, and richly coloured by iron; the opening at the summit *a*, is the orifice of the central cylindrical cavity, which is filled up by chalk; and in flint specimens, with silex of a different colour to that of the surrounding mass. If fig. 2. were placed on the top of fig. 4, the general shape of the zoophyte would be represented. The opening at the base of fig. 4, marks the spot from

* *Org. Rem.* Vol. II. p. 96, Pl. IX. and XI.

† A coloured vertical section is figured in "Thoughts on a Pebble," Pl. 2.