There is still another feature among Polyps, which ought to be considered in this connection. Not only do the Halcyonoids, the higher order among Polyps, form compound communities in all their representatives, but we find that these compound communities tend to acquire a marked individual independence, which is fully reached in those types of this order which, like Veretillum, Renilla, and Pennatula, move about freely, and these are the highest among the Halcyonoids. A similar tendency to individualization of communities is also observed in the highest Actinoids; for some Madrepores not only form complicated communities, but exhibit, at the top of their branches, an individual which, though forming part of the community, is larger than all the lateral individuals, and gives, as it were, individuality to each branch.

With these facts before us, it will not be difficult to determine the relative standing of the Rugosa and Tabulata. The Rugosa differ from the Tabulata in having a considerable number of representatives which are simple individuals; or, when they form communities, these are a loose aggregation of a few individuals maintaining a certain degree of independence: we never find among them communities formed of innumerable closely combined individuals, such as occur among Tabulata, in many of which there exists a direct communication between adjoining individuals through pores in their walls. I am, therefore, inclined to consider the Rugosa as inferior to the Tabulata; and their prevalence in the oldest rocks and their early extinction in geological times, while Tabulata are continued to this day, confirm this view. The Rugosa seem to me to stand in the same relation to the Lucernarioids among Hydroids, as the Actiniæ stand to the Fungidæ among genuine Polyps. And here, again, we have a remarkable analogy between the two types, in the circumstance that Fungidæ are the oldest genuine Corals known, as the Rugosa are the oldest type among Hydroids.

All this is in perfect accordance with the character of the higher Acalephs. As we have seen before, the Ctenophoræ are analogous to Echinoderms; but Echinoderms have reached a degree in organic complication in which individuality, as such, becomes a character of superiority. In conformity with this analogy, we find that all Ctenophoræ are free individuals, and so are the Discophoræ also; while the free naked-eyed Medusæ arising from Hydroids occupy, in that respect, an intermediate position between the higher Acalephs and the lower Hydroids, which form large and highly complicated communities, and bear, in their perfect state, sessile Medusæ buds only. I do not see that any objection can be made to the rank here assigned to the Acalephs in general. It seems to me to be determined by their whole structure, as well as by their mode of development, and must be considered as the true expression of their natural affinities, if the lowest Hydroids are those in which the hydroid elements prevail over the me-