

SECTION I.

FOSSIL ECHINODERMS.

THE animals that compose this highest Class in the grand division of Radiated animals, viz. Echinidans, Stelleridans, and Crinoïdeans, have, till lately, been considered as made up of many *similar* parts disposed like Rays around a common centre.

Mr. Agassiz has recently shewn, (London and Edin. Phil. Mag. Nov. 1834, p. 369), that they do not partake of this character, from which the division of radiated animals is named; but that their rays are *dissimilar*, and not always connected with an uniform centre; and that a *bilateral* symmetry, analogous to that of the more perfect classes of animals, exists throughout the families of Echini, Asteriæ, and Crinoidea.

ECHINIDANS AND STELLERIDANS.

The History of the fossil species of Echinidans and Stelleridans has been most beautifully illustrated, in the plates of the *Petrefacten* of Prof. Goldfuss. Though derived from Strata of various degrees of high antiquity, they are for the most part referred by him to existing Genera.

The family of Echinidans appears to have ex-