

admirable forms declare, "The hand that made us is divine," since they exceed in all these respects the most elaborate human works.*

The *third* and last section of the Echinoderms, or spiny-skinned Radiaries, are the *Fistulidans*.† Amongst these we may notice the *Sea-anemonies*,‡ marine animals, fixing themselves to the rocks, but having the power of locomotion, which from a common base send forth what appear to be a number of stalks terminating each in what seems a many-petaled flower of various hues, so that those who have an opportunity of observing them from a diving bell, may see the submerged rocks covered with beautiful blossoms of various colours, and vying with the parterres of the gayest gardens. Ellis, who was the first Englishman who opened his eyes to the beauties and singularities that adorn the garden which God has planted in the bosom of the ocean, has named many of these from flowers they seem to represent, as the daisy, the cereus, the pink, the aster, the sunflower, &c.

These animals, at first, appear to come very near the polypes, especially the fresh-water ones,§ bearing a number of individuals, springing, as it were, from the same root, each sending forth from its mouth a number of tentacles, which are stated to terminate in a sucker, and by which, also, like the other Echinoderms, they respire and reject

* Admirable as is the external organization of these Echinidans, the study of the intimate structure of their various parts, even to the remotest details, serves to increase the astonishment of an inquiring mind till admiration heightens into awe: the thinnest slice of any of their numerous spines is stamped with the CREATOR'S impress, each particle of which it is composed being placed with mathematical exactness after a certain plan peculiar to the species. When further, we reflect that every species has a pattern of its own, both those which now exist, and those of extinct races, we are lost amidst the vast variety.—T. R. J.

† *Fistulides*, Lam.

‡ *Actinia*.

§ *Hydra*.