

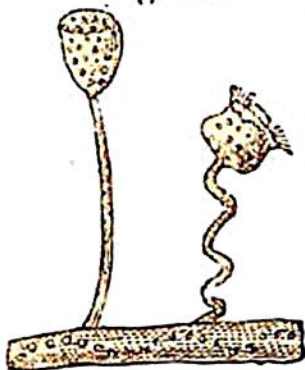
in the Red Sea, performs a double rotatory movement, one by the rotation of the anterior pair, and the other by the three posterior pairs. The motion of these filamentous legs is so rapid that they appear as if, instead of eight, a hundred were revolving, and so form a kind of natural Phantasmoscope. Another infusory genus, *Bacillaria*, seems to prefigure the *Salpes*,* the species at first being concatenated in chains or ribands, and afterwards separating (*figs. 57,*

Fig. 58.

*Bacillaria Oleopatra.*

58). The animalcules forming this genus have sometimes been mistaken for plants, and the quadrangular form of the associated individuals gives them the appearance of the jointed stem of a plant, rather than of an animal chain. On a former occasion I alluded to other imitations of the vegetable world exhibited by the polypes, particularly to some of them producing seeming blossoms, consisting, as it were, of *many* petals.† I shall now notice some that represent *monometalous* flowers. A genus long known to

Fig. 59.

*Vorticella cothurnata.*

naturalists, which seems intermediate between the Infusories and the Polypes, named originally by Linné *Vorticella*, exactly simulates a bell flower with a spiral footstalk. They are often found in fresh water, and present no unapt representation of a bunch of the flowers of the lily of the valley, whence one species has been named *Vorticella Convallaria*. Some of these have branching, and others simple stems,‡ but they are all spiral, and capable of being lengthened or shortened at the will of the animal, which is thus enabled to elevate or depress its little blossoms, the mouths of which are furnished with a double circlet of filamentary tentacles, by the rotation of which, like the rest

* See above, p. 222.

† See above, p. 178.

‡ See above, p. 176.