

almost in juxtaposition, as the Sponges and the Gorgoniæ. The merits of Lamouroux have always appeared to me to have been much overrated: it is a very easy matter, by arbitrarily fixing on this or that character, to set in order any given number of objects in any pattern we may choose, and Lamouroux had no higher notion of the character of a systematist than this, and acted accordingly. It is very true that he named and distinguished many genera, but who, on critically examining these genera, will deny that he proceeded without caution and without judgment,—determined apparently to make as many as could be made that his successors might be spared the unprofitable task of coining and inventing names! *

System of LAMARCK. (1816.)

Class POLYPI.

Order I. P. CILIATI.

Polypes without tentacula, but having near the mouth, or at its orifice, vibratile ciliæ or ciliated and rotatory organs which agitate or whirl the water.

I. *Section.*—VIBRATILES.—Rattulus, Trichocerca, Vaginicola.

II. *Section.*—ROTIFERES.—Folliculina, Brachionus, Furcularia, Urceolaria, Vorticella, Tubicolaria.

Order II. P. DENUDATI.

Polypes with tentacula, without an envelope or polypidom, and fixed either permanently or spontaneously.

Hydra—Coryne—Pedicellaria—Zoantha.

Order III. P. VAGINATI.

Polypes with tentacula, invariably fixed in an inorganic polypidom which envelopes them; and forming, in general, compound animals.

* *Polypidoms of homogeneous composition.*

I. *Section.* POLYPIERS FLUVIATILES.—Diffugia, Cristatella, Spongilla, Alcyonella.

* Blainville in criticising Lamouroux's latest work, says—"Nous nous bornerons à dire que Lamouroux a encore considérablement augmenté le nombre des genres, surtout parmi les polypiers pierreux, pour y placer un grand nombre de corps organisés fossiles, trouvés dans le calcaire à polypiers de Caen, et que malheureusement la plupart de ces genres sont mal caractérisés, ce dont je me suis assuré directement sur les objets mêmes qui ont servi à ses observations." *Man. d'Actinol.* p. 54.