

The clavate rose-red specimens I have generally found between tide marks, and the white ones with a long filiform stalk on dead shells dredged from deeper water. On the latter is undoubtedly founded the "*HYDRA CAPITATA alba, pedunculo rugoso longo, cirris capitae longitudine*" of Muller; while the former answer better to his *H. squamata*, but although at one time disposed to consider them distinct, I am now satisfied of their identity as species, for they graduate so insensibly into one another as to lose even the character of fixed varieties. I am also led to suspect that the *H. brevicornis* and *minuticornis* of Muller, Zool. Dan. prod. p. 230, will be found to be modifications of this species.

The HYDRA TUBA of Sir J. G. Dalyell probably belongs to this genus, and may be distinguished by its *tentacula being much longer than the body*. It inhabits the Frith of Forth near Edinburgh, where its natural abode seems the internal concavity of the upper oyster-shell. It extends "about two inches in whole, with its long white tentacula waving like a beautiful silken pencil in the water. It propagates by an external shapeless bud issuing from the side of the parent, and withdrawing, though very long connected by a ligament, on approaching maturity. In thirteen months a single specimen had eighty-three descendants. Singular and distorted forms appear from the successive and irregular evolution of the buds, during subsistence of the connecting ligament." Edin. New Phil. Journ. xvii. 411; xxi. 92. and Rep. Brit. Assoc. an. 1834, p. 599.

3. HERMIA,* Johnston.

CHARACTER.—*Polype fixed, sheathed in a thin horny membrane, clavate or branched and subphytoid, the apices of the branches clubbed and furnished with scattered glandular tentacula: mouth 0.*

1. H. GLANDULOSA, irregularly or dichotomously branched;

* I found the name in Shakspeare;

"What wicked and dissembling glasse of mine,

"Made me compare with *Hermia's* sphery eyne."

When I defined this genus in the Mag. Zool. and Bot. V. ii. p. 326, I was not aware that the same had been instituted by Sars under the name of *Stipula*, and by Ehrenberg who called it *Syncoryne*. The latter designation is in direct opposition to the Linnæan axiom—"generic names, derived from others by the addition of a syllable, are disapproved;"—and Sars' name seems to me even more inadmissible, since it is a descriptive term in Botany. The fancy that the glands which surround the heads were the guardians of the animal,—its "sphery eyne"—suggested the name here adopted.