

tween every pair of pinnæ. Pinnæ alternate, close, parallel, celliferous on the upper side ; the cells separated by a joint and set in a sort of indentation in the stalk. They have been aptly compared by Ellis to the flower of the lily of the valley, being of a campanulate form with the rim cut into eight equal teeth, while in front there is a stronger spinous process which does not project beyond the cell. The ovarian vesicles are large and remarkably curious : they are produced both from the main stalk and pinnæ, are shortly pedicellate, and resemble a swollen pod girded round with from 5 to 9 cristated ribs or bands proceeding from a dorsal tube, and rising into short spines on the anterior margin. When recent " they are translucent, and six or seven dark oval masses can be seen within each. These seemed to be ova. The vesicle being torn up, and the ova allowed to escape, they were seen to be in form irregularly oval, but containing an opaque elongated body in their centre. (Fig. 6, p. 48.) The form of this central body varied in different ova, but it was generally somewhat hammer-shaped. Neither the general mass of the ovum, nor this central body were seen to move." *Dr Coldstream*, June 10, 1833.—Polypes " minute, delicate ; tentacula 10, annulated ; mouth infundibuliform." *Dr Coldstream*.

" Each plume," says Mr Lister in reference to a specimen of this species, " might comprise from 400 to 500 polypi ;" and a specimen, of no unusual size, before me has twelve plumes, with certainly not fewer cells on each than the larger number mentioned, thus giving 6000 polypes as the tenantry of a single polypidom ! Now many such specimens, all united too by a common fibre, and all the offshoots of one common parent, are often located on one sea-weed, the site then of a population which nor London nor Pekin can rival ! But *Pl. cristata* is a small species, and there are single specimens of *Pl. falcata*, or *Sertularia argentea*, of which the family may consist of 80,000 or 100,000 individuals. It is such calculations, always under-rated, that illustrate the " magnalities of Nature," and take us by surprise, leaving us in wonderment at what may be the great objects of this her exuberant production of these " insect-millions peopling every way." But

" So HE ordain'd, whose way is in the sea,
His path amidst great waters, and his steps
Unknown ;—whose judgments are a mighty deep,
Where plummet of Archangel's intellect
Could never yet find soundings, but from age
To age let down, drawn up, then thrown again,
With lengthened line and added weight, still fails ;
And still the cry in Heaven is ' O the depth' !" —*Montgomery*.