

it passes to the stomach, where it remains for some time, and then is voided upwards in small round pellets, (which at first I imagined to be its eggs,) through the gut, whose exit is near a neck, where it was first taken in.

“ The body of this animal consists of three parts or divisions, in the uppermost whereof all the aforementioned intestines are contained, though they are not to be distinguished when the creature is hungry ; but after it has eaten they become distended and opaque, and may very plainly be discovered. The other two divisions (the lowermost of which I take to be fixed to the bell or outward case,) seem of no other service than to give the creature power of contraction and extension.

“ The arms seem not able like those of the common Polype to contract or shorten themselves ; but instead thereof, when the animal retires into his case, they are brought together in a close and curious order, so as easily to be drawn in. Their general figure when expanded is that of a cup, whose base and top are of an horse-shoe form ; but they present sometimes a very different appearance, by separating into four parts, and ranging themselves in such sort as to represent four separate plumes of feathers.

“ I could never discover any eyes they have, and yet find some reason to believe they see : for on being set in the light of the sun, or a candle, or brought out of the dark into daylight, though contracted before and retired into the bell, (as indeed they generally are when in the dark,) they constantly extend their arms for prey, and shew evident signs of being pleased.

“ Besides the particular and separate motion each of these creatures is able to exert within its own case and independent of the rest, the whole colony has together a power of altering the position, or even of removing from one place to another the bell or common habitation of them all. Hence this bell is seen sometimes standing perfectly upright, sometimes bending the upper part downwards.

“ It has been mentioned already, that between ten and fifteen of these animals dwell together, as it were a little community, in one bell-like case or common habitation : but their number increasing, this bell may be observed to split gradually, beginning from about the middle of the upper or anterior extremity, and proceeding downwards towards the bottom, till they separate at last entirely, and form two complete colonies, independent of each other ; one of which sometimes removes itself to another part of the vessel. The manner how the single animals propagate I have not been able to discover, though