

earlier the epoch at which we examine them. No two animals can be more unlike than an adult Medusa (Fig. 31) and an adult Campanularia, (Fig. 143;) they even seem to belong to different classes of the Animal Kingdom, the former being considered as an Acaleph, the latter as a Polyp. On the other hand, if we compare them when first hatched from the egg, they appear so much alike that it is with the greatest difficulty they can be distinguished. They are then little Infusoria, without any very distinct shape, and moving with the greatest freedom. The larvæ of certain intestinal worms, though they belong to a different department, have nearly the same form, at one period of their life. Farther still, this resemblance extends to plants. The spores of certain sea-weeds have nearly the same appearance as the young Polyp, or the young Medusa; and what is yet more remarkable, they are also furnished with cilia, and move about in a similar manner. But this is only a transient state. Like the young Campanularia and the young Medusa, the spore of the sea-weed is free for only a short time; soon it becomes fixed, and from that moment the resemblance ceases.

360. Are we to conclude, then, from this resemblance of the different types of animals at the outset of life, that there is no real difference between them; or that the two Kingdoms, the Animal and the Vegetable, actually blend, because their germs are similar? On the contrary, we think nothing is better calculated to strengthen the idea of the original separation of the various groups, as distinct and independent types, than the study of their different phases. In fact, a difference so wide as that between the adult Medusa and the adult Campanularia must have existed even in the young; only it does not show itself in a manner appreciable by our senses; the character by which they subsequently differ so much being not yet developed. To