

the masses seem as if still adhering to the rocks on which they originally grew ; the pentagonal cells are still open, as if the inhabitants died but yesterday ; and the star-like lines inside still retain their original character of thin partitions, radiating outwards and upwards from a depressed centre. In other instances they have been torn from their places, and lie upturned in the shale, amid broken shells and fragments of wood. I brought with me one curious specimen perforated by an ancient pholas : the cavity exactly resembles those cavities of the existing *Lithodomus* shell which fretted so many of the calcareous masses that lay scattered on the beach on every side ; but it is shut firmly up by the indurated shale in which the specimen itself had lain buried, and a fragment of carbonized wood lies embedded in the entrance. The cave is curtained across by a wall of masonry immensely more ancient than that which converted into a prison the cave of the Seven Sleepers.

#### RECENT TYPES OF FOSSILS.

AN imagination curious to re-erect and restore finds assistance of no uninteresting kind among the pools and beneath the bunches of sea-weed which we find scattered, at the fall of the tide, over the surface of the Navidale deposits. One very minute pool of sea-water, scarcely thrice the size of a common washing basin, and scarcely half a foot in depth, furnished me with recent types of well-nigh all the fossils that lay embedded for several feet around it ; though there were few places in the bed where these lay more thickly. Three beautiful sea anemones,—two of crimson, and the third of a greenish-buff colour,—stretched out their sentient petals along the sides ; and the minute currents around them showed that they were all employed in their proper trade of winnowing the water for its animalcular contents,