

The *Belemnites abbreviatus* and *elongatus*, both large, massy species, especially the former, are of common occurrence ; while those most abundant in the upper beds are the *Belemnites longissimus* and *penicillatus*, both exceedingly slim species. It is worthy of remark, that Sir R. Murchison, in his list of fossils peculiar to the Lias as developed in the midland counties of England, specifies the *Belemnites penicillatus* as characteristic of its upper, and the *Belemnites abbreviatus* and *elongatus* of its lower division.

CUTTLE-FISH.

Is the reader acquainted with at once the largest and most curious of British Mollusca,—the cuttle-fish,—a creature which stands confessedly at the head of the great natural division to which it belongs? Independently of its intrinsic interest to the naturalist, it bears for the commentator and the man of letters an interest of an extrinsic and reflected kind. No other mollusc occupies so prominent a place in our literature. It is furnished with an ink-bag, from which, when pursued by an enemy, it ejects a dingy carbonaceous fluid, that darkens the water for yards around, and then escapes in the cloud,—like some Homeric hero worsted by his antagonist, but favoured by the gods, or some body of military retreating unseen from a lost field, under the cover of a smoking shot. And there has scarce arisen a controversy since the days of Cicero, in which the cuttle-fish, with its ink-bag, has not furnished some one of the controversialists with an illustration. It has attained to some celebrity, too, on another and altogether different account. That enormous monster, the kraken of Norway, of which our earlier geographers tell such surprising stories, was held to belong to this curious family. And though the monster has disappeared from the treatises of our naturalists