

living and floating *sepia*, is contrary to all analogy.' With an eye to the question, I have succeeded in collecting a number of specimens, which, when in their recent state, had been crushed or broken; and I am disposed to hold, from the appearance of the fractures in every case, that, notwithstanding the authorities arrayed against him, Miller's view is the right one. The stony column, though it must have been somewhat less brittle in its recent than in its fossil state,—for it contained its numerous thin plates of horn, tenacious, as is natural to the substance, in a considerable degree,—was yet brittle enough to break across at very low angles, and to exhibit on the side to which the force had been applied, its yawning cracks and fissures, though on the opposite side the wrinkled surface generally indicates a tag of adhesion. In the cases, too, in which the Belemnite had been broken into fragments, I have found every detached portion presenting its hard, sharp angles, and existing as a brittle calcareous body, however soft and chalky the condition of the more delicate shells of the deposit in which it occurred. Nor do I know that analogy is very directly opposed to the supposition that the column might have existed in the creature in its stony state. If two solid calcareous substances, quite as hard and dense as any fossil Belemnite, exist within the head of the recent cod and haddock, why might not one solid calcareous substance have existed within the body of an extinct order of cuttlefish?

I have found considerable difficulty in classing, according to their species, the Belemnites of the Lias. I soon exhausted the species enumerated as peculiar to the formation by Miller, and found a great many others. They divide naturally into two well-marked families,—the specimens of a numerous family, that, like the *Belemnite elongatus*, are broadest at the base, and diminish as they approach the apex,—while the specimens of a family considerably less