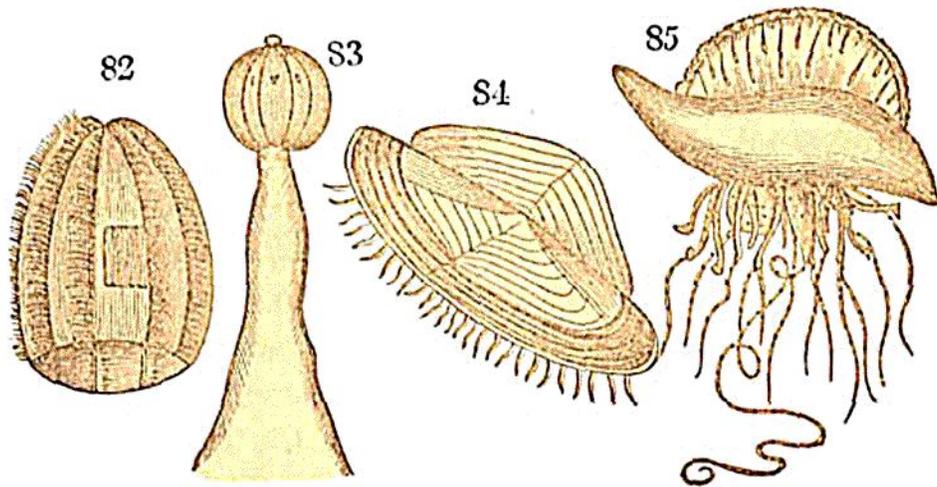


denominated the *Beroë*, (Fig. 82 and 83,) which is remarkable for its organs of progressive motion. Its body is either globular, or oblong, and it swims with its axis in a vertical position. Eight longitudinal bands or ridges, which have



been sometimes compared to ribs, extend down its sides, like those of a melon; and along each of these is attached a set of little membranes, extended horizontally, and supported on radiating fibres; so that they bear a pretty exact resemblance to the fin of a fish. Their action is not unlike that of the wings of a bird; for they are made to flap up and down, striking the water vertically, and communicating an ascending impulse to the body. This animal is also provided with two very long and slender processes, which come out from the sides of the body, and from these a great number of still finer filaments, or *cilia*, proceed: the whole apparatus is highly sensitive and irritable, and on the slightest touch the filaments are thrown into spiral coils, and retract rapidly within the body. They thus act the part of tentacula, or delicate organs, both of touch and of prehension.* It was observed by Fabricius, that when a *Beroë* is cut into many pieces, each piece continues to live, and to swim about by the action of the *cilia*, which still continue their vibratory motions.

In two other genera of *Acalephæ*, the *Porpita* and the *Verella*, provision is made for the mechanical support of the

* See a description of the *Beroë pilcus*, Lam. by Dr. Grant, in the Transactions of the Zoological Society of London, vol. i. p. 9.