

cupied. A head springs from the remaining stem, cut over very near the root; and a redundancy of heads may be obtained from artificial sections, apparently beyond the ordinary provisions of nature. Thus twenty-two heads were produced through the course of 550 days, from three sections of a single stem."* The observations of Mr Harvey on the same, or a very nearly allied, species of zoophyte confirm the experiments of Sir J. G. Dall-yell, so far as these have reference to the deciduousness of the polypes and their regeneration; † and it seems to me not altogether unwarrantable to infer a like temporary existence and revival in those of the Sertulariadæ from a reflection on the experiments of Mr Lister,—incomplete certainly, but which prove that under certain circumstances their polypes disappear by a process of internal absorption,‡ and under convenient circumstances would probably have been renovated, as I have witnessed this result in similar experiments. On Saturday, May 28th 1837, a specimen of *Campanularia gelatinosa* was procured from the shore, and after having ascertained that the polypes were active and entire, it was placed in a saucer of sea-water. Here it remained undisturbed until Monday afternoon, when all the polypes had disappeared. Some cells were empty or nearly so, others were half-filled with the wasted body of the polype, which had lost, however, every vestige of the tentacula. The water had become putrid, and the specimen was therefore removed to another vessel with pure water, and again set aside. On examining it on the Thursday,

* Edin. New Phil. Journ. xvii. p. 415.

† "The most singular circumstance attending the growth of this animal, and which I discovered entirely by accident, remains to be mentioned. After I had kept the clusters in a large bowl for two days, I observed the animals to droop and look unhealthy. On the third day the heads were all thrown off, and lying on the bottom of the vessel; all the pink colouring matter was deposited in the form of a cloud, and when it had stood quietly for two days, it became a very fine powder. Thinking that the tubes were dead I was going to throw them away, but I happened to be under the necessity of quitting home for two days, and on my return I found a thin transparent film being protruded from the top of every tube: I then changed the water every day, and in three days time every tube had a small body reproduced upon it. The only difference that I can discover in the structure of the young from the old heads, consists in the new ones wanting the small red *papillæ*, and in the absence of all colour in the animal." —Proceed. Zool. Soc. No. 41, p. 55.

‡ Phil. Trans. 1834, p. 374, 376.