

gonal stem (lower row of figures, Tab. 114). This extensive collection of the stems, and detached bones, exhibits the usual forms and variations observable in the structure of the ossicula belonging to different genera. It will be necessary to select only a few of the most characteristic for examination (Tab. 114). The bones when separated were called *trochites*,* and when several were united together *entrochi*, by the earlier collectors of fossils.† In some parts of England they are popularly known by the names of *fairy-stones*, and St. Cuthbert's beads; and the circular perforated kinds are occasionally found in the tumuli of the ancient Britons, having been worn as ornaments. The articulating surfaces, by which they were attached to each other, are variously and elegantly striated and grooved, presenting considerable diversity of ornament. The central perforation in some species is small and circular, in others polygonal (Tab. 114, figs. 2 to 10). The bones of the crinoidea, like the skeletons of mammalia, were of course formed by secretion effected by appropriate tissues; and, as in the fossil corals, the membrane may still be detected in their mineralized remains. Upon submitting encrinal vertebræ to the action of diluted muriatic acid, the calcareous earth is removed, and the animal tissue appears in transparent flocculi, bearing every mark of the crenated surface of the bones.‡

* Wheel-stones.

† Org. Rem. vol. ii. p. 156.

‡ Parkinson. Org. Rem. vol. ii. p. 166.