

rocks; and portions of the stems and separate bones of one species alone, form extensive beds of limestone in Derbyshire (page 587).

42. THE LILY ENCRINITE (Tab. 90.)*—One of the most elegant of the fossil crinoidea is the *lily encrinite*, which, as already stated, occurs only in the muschel-kalk of the new red sandstone group (page 472), and is principally found in one locality, near the village of Erkerode, in Brunswick. The structure of this zoophyte is beautifully exemplified in the fine specimen before us (Tab. 90), which was formerly in the collection of Mr. Parkinson. The stem of this species is remarkable, from being constructed of vertebrae alternately large and orbicular, and small and cylindrical, thus forming a column of great flexibility. The pelvis resembles in shape a depressed vase; the upper part of its cavity appears to have been closed by an integument protected by numerous plates, the mouth of the animal occupying the centre. It will elucidate the subject if we examine this specimen of a marsupite, in which the bases of two of the arms, or tentacula, are preserved (Tab. 116). A vertebral column attached to the central plate, at the base of the marsupite, would convert it into an encrinite; and in the large expanded plates of the pelvis, and the strong and simple phalanges of the arms, we have the elements of the more complicated and highly ornamented fabric of the lily encrinite.

* See page 473.