

ENCrinITAL AND PENTACrinITAL STEMS AND OSSICULA (*Wond.* p. 517, Tab. 114. *Bd.* plates 49—52.).—The detached bones, and portions of the stems, are so common in many strata, that they attracted the notice of the earlier collectors, by whom the single ossicula were called *trochites* (wheel-stones), and when in an united series, *entrochites*. In the north of England they are called fairy-stones, and Saint Cuthbert's beads. I have found the circular perforated ossicula, which had been worn as ornaments, in tumuli of the ancient Britons.

These bodies present considerable variety in form and ornament, and in the markings on their articulating surfaces, which are often radiated and grooved in floriform and stellular figures (*Lign.* 69, figs. 3, 4.). The central perforation is small in some species, and large and pentagonal in others. The ossicula of the Encrinites often vary in size in the same column, being circular and elliptical, or thick and thin, alternately, as in the upper part of the column of the Lily Encrinite, *Lign.* 69, fig. 6, by which great flexibility and freedom of motion were obtained.

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observe, that all the articles on Palæontology in that work are of the highest order, and will afford the student much important and accurate information on the subjects embraced by the science.