

amount of passive motion. There are no muscles between the joints of the stem, so that the animal does not appear to be able to move its stalk at will. It is probably only gently waved by the tides and currents, and by the movements of its own arms.

In *Pentacrinus asteria* about every seventeenth joint of the lower mature part of the stem, is a little deeper or thicker than the others, and bears a whorl of five long tendrils or cirri. The stem is, even near the base, slightly pentagonal in section, and it becomes more markedly so towards the head. The cirri start from shallow grooves between the projecting angles of the pentagon, so that they are ranged in five straight rows up and down the stem. The cirri are made up of about thirty-six to thirty-seven short joints; they start straight out from the stem rigid and stiff, but at the end they usually curve downwards, and the last joint is sharp and clawlike. These tendrils have no true muscles; they have, however, some power of contracting round resisting objects which they touch, and there are often star-fishes and other sea animals entangled among them. The specimen figured has thus become the temporary abode of a very elegant species of *Asteroporpa*.

Near the head the cirri become shorter and smaller, and their whorls closer. The reason of this is that the stem grows immediately below the head, and the cirrus-bearing joints are formed in this position, the intermediate joints being produced afterwards below and above each cirrated joint,—which they gradually separate from the one on either side of it, till the number of seventeen or eighteen