

The inhabitants of this petra present a somewhat motley appearance; their general aspect is unusual; their dresses are varied; one kind of stuff, the oxide of iron, has been used by nature in colouring their dresses, and yet they are attired in red, black, brown, grey and parti-color.

Although now inhabitants of the dry land, they were once tenants of the mighty deep, and may, therefore, be arranged as such—as Polyparia, Stellarida, Conchifera, Mollusca, Pisces.

We pass over the lowest class at present, and direct attention to the Stellarida—star-fishes.

Of these we have two very interesting representatives—a Uraster and a Crinoid. The Uraster is different from any of the five figured and described in Murchison's *Siluria*. The original cast was given to Dr. Dawson and a wax impression retained. It bears a striking resemblance to the common star-fish of our coasts, and doubtless the habits of the ancient corresponded with those of the modern.

To remains of the Crinoid star-fish a saintly origin has been ascribed, and to these the name St. Cuthbert's Beads has been given.

“On a rock by Lindisfarm,  
St. Cuthbert sits and toils to frame  
The sea born beads that bear his name.  
Such tales had Whitby's fishers told,  
And said they might his shape behold,  
And hear his anvil sound—  
A deaden'd clang, a huge dim form,  
Seen but and heard when gathering storm  
And night were closing round.”

—MARMION.

At Arisaig, too, and upwards of 3,000 miles from Lindisfarm, St. Cuthbert's Beads are found in abundance, where the Saint's huge dim form is not seen, and where the deadened clang of his anvil is not heard. By the naturalist the

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