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when it is broke transversely it appears to be formed irregularly ; and in the *Tethya* the spiculæ are very large, and are felted together, with their points towards the surface, into a hollow subglobular form, so that it is in fact originally a tubercle, formed of one series of spiculæ, which from the intervention of new spiculæ between the old ones, increases in diameter, and thus produces the central space. The spiculæ of species which I examined had the base slightly cut into two or three radiating processes.

Notwithstanding I so strongly urge the placing of this family amongst the Algæ, yet I own that I do not know any exactly similarly formed vegetable*, although they agree more with them than any known animals ; in fact they appear from their internal structure to approach some of the acicular crystalline substances of the mineral kingdom.

* Except, perhaps, from the description, *Echinella acuta* of Lingby, which appears to be similar, and his figure of the *granulæ*, as he calls them, corresponds with the spiculæ of several sponges, except that I have not observed any transverse lines in them, but there has been a difficulty to which kingdom this genus belongs ; it is now almost generally considered as a vegetable.

ART. IV. Description of a new species of *Emarginula*.

By THOMAS BELL, Esq. F. L. S.

EMARGINULA. Lamarck.

Rosea. *E. testá ovatá, cancellatá, epidermide fusco indutá, intus roseá; vertice acuto, valde recurvo vel subinvolutó; margine fisso.*

This shell is readily distinguished from *E. Fissura* by the greater curvature of the apex, by being at least as high as it is long, and by the delicate rose colour of the inside in the adult. There is a white line within the shell, running from the fissure to the apex, formed by the gradual obliteration of the fissure, as the shell is increased. The animal does not appear to differ from that of *E. Fissura*.

Found in Poole harbour, where I took three specimens of different sizes, last autumn, in dredging. Plate 4. fig. 1.

Zoological Journal

