

it presented. He also noticed a hyaloid membrane of great tenuity which surrounds the base of the tentacular plume, and extends upwards for about the fourth of the length of the plume, being adherent to the tentacula, and constituting a kind of calyciform appendage to the base of the crown.

He mentioned the existence of this calyciform membrane in *Plumatella* and *Cristatella*, but would not speak positively as to its presence in *Alcyonella*; from *Paludicella* it is certainly absent, a fact which, along with several others, tends to approach this elegant zoophyte to the marine *Ciliobrachiates*.

Dr. Allman also alluded to a singular valve-like organ with which the mouth is furnished, exactly similar to that found in *Plumatella*, and described by the Author at the late meeting of the British Association. This organ he has also detected in *Cristatella*.

Through the external tunic of the polypidom will be found scattered, numerous silicious particles of no definite figure, and the Author considered himself justified, from the observations which he had made upon the fresh-water zoophytes, to come to the general conclusion that in the corneous polypidom of these animals, silica replaces the calcareous deposits of the marine species.

February 26.

ROBERT BALL, Esq., Treasurer, in the Chair.

The Secretary read a paper by the Rev. Dr. Hincks, "On the Defacement of Divine and Royal Names on Egyptian Monuments."

An attempt is made in this paper to specify the several occasions, on which the principal defacements of Egyptian

monuments took place; mentioning the principal ones which suffered on each occasion. The occasions specified are four.

I. The dethronement or death of Q. Amuneth (*circa* 1325, B. C.), when her monuments were defaced by her brother Thothmos III. The propylon at Ellassassif is the principal one defaced on this occasion.

II. The change in the religious views of Amenothph IV. (the sun-worshipper of El Tell) (*circa* 1250, B. C.), which led him to deface all the figures and titles of the God Amoun, and all names of which his name formed a part. The monuments defaced on this occasion are referred to three classes.

1. Those which were never restored, as the lesser obelisks at Karnac.

2. Those in which the sun-worshipper substituted another name for what he defaced; as in a cartouche of his own cited by M. Prisse, and in those of his supposed grandfather Amenothph III., where he substituted a repetition of the prænomen for the defaced phonetic name.

3. Those in which the names and figures that were defaced have been restored by subsequent kings. Instances of this are the Lateran Obelisk at Rome, the great obelisks at Karnac, and those cartouches in which the name of Amenothph III. appears cut over the repetition of his prænomen; the latter having been previously substituted for the original name.

III. The overthrow of the sun-worshippers and restoration of the worship of Amoun, on which occasion all the monuments of the intrusive worship were destroyed, as at Karnac, Gebel Tounh, and Ell Tell (a few years after the preceding occasion). The tomb of the king called Skhai, the father of the sun-worshipper, was violated at this time; and this was probably the occasion on which the royal name on the lion, presented by Lord Prudhoe to the British Museum, was obliterated. It was that of Amenothph IV.

IV. The hostility to the god Seth, Nahas, or Noubti, which arose in the minds of the Egyptian priests, and which led to the defacement of all monuments in which he appears as a beneficent god, and of his name when forming a part of names of kings. The time when this hostility arose, and the cause of it, are yet unexplained ; but it could not have led to this defacement sooner than 1100, B. C. This defacement is conspicuous on the statues of Menephthah III. at Turin and London, and the Flaminian Obelisk of Menephthah I. at Rome, and frequently at Karnac.

It is incidentally mentioned that *Pone*, or *Penne*, is Lower Egypt ; its extremities being mentioned in a papyrus in the British Museum in connexion with *Ebo*, or *Elephantine*, as the limits of Egypt. And the titles "King of *Penne*," "King of the Pure Country," which occur in the second cartouches of many Egyptian kings, are shewn to imply that the kings bearing those titles were only kings of parts of Egypt ; a King of *Penne*, or Lower Egypt, like *Horus*, always implying a King of *Keme*, or the pure country, *i. e.* of Upper Egypt, as *Skhai* and *Amenothph IV.* were.

Mr. E. Clibborn made a communication respecting the *Hycsos*, or *Shepherd Kings*, tending to shew that they were descendants of *Isaac*.

March 16. (Stated Meeting.)

SIR WM. R. HAMILTON, LL. D., President, in the
Chair.

RESOLVED,—That the Rev. J. D'A. Sirr's collection of Irish Antiquities be purchased on the terms recommended by Council. The terms being a payment of £350, the