

ticle at the base of all the cells, each of which occupies a joint. Vesicles scattered, small, pear-shaped, the rim of the opening plain.

10. LAOMEDEA.* Lamouroux.

CHARACTER. *Polypidom rooted by a creeping fibre, plant-like, erect; jointed at regular intervals, the joints ringed, incrassated, giving origin, alternately on opposite sides, to the shortly pedicled cells; cells campanulate: vesicles axillary.—Polypes hydraform.*

1. L. DICHOTOMA, stem filiform, branched dichotomously; cells alternate, campanulate, the rim even. Ellis.

PLATE XXII. Fig. 1, 2.

Sea-thread Coralline, Ellis, Corall. 21, no. 18, pl. 12, fig. a, A.—Sertularia dichotoma, Lin. Syst. 1312. Ellis and Soland. Zooph. 48. Berk. Syn. i. 218. Turt. Gmel. iv. 682. Wern. Mem. i. 564. Turt. Brit. Faun. 215. Stew. Elem. ii. 446. Bosc, Vers, iii. 118. Hogg's Stock. 33.—S. longissima, Pall. Elench. 119.—Sert. volubilis, Fabric. Faun. Grœnl. 444.—Laomedea dichotoma, Lamour. Cor. Flex. 207. Corall. 91. Risso, L'Europ. Merid. v. 314. La Laomédée dichotome, Blainv. Actinol. 474.—Campanularia dichotoma, Lam. Anim. s. Vert. ii. 113. Flem. Brit. Anim. 548. Stark, Elem. ii. 441. Risso, L'Europ. Merid. v. 309. Grant in Edin. New Phil. Journ. i. 151. Grant in Cyclop. Anat. and Phys. i. 108, fig. 30. Grant, Comp. Anat. 10, fig. 5. Johnston in Trans. Newc. Soc. ii. 255. Templeton in Mag. Nat. Hist. ix. 469. Lister in Phil. Trans. an. 1834, 372, pl. 8, fig. 5.

Hab. On old shells in deep water, common. "This is found in great abundance on the south-west coast of England, and seems most curiously contrived, from its structure, to resist the violence of the waves, all its joints being furnished with springs," Ellis. Scarborough, Mr Bean. Dunstanborough Castle, Mr R. Embleton. Berwick Bay, G. J. Leith shore, Jameson. Found on the shore of Dublin Bay, &c. Templeton.

Polypidom confervoid, rooted by a creeping flexuous fibre, from four to six inches high, slender, filiform, smooth, of a blackish colour, wavy, branched in a dichotomous or alternate manner, the branches ringed at their origins, simple or divided like the primary stem. The cells are bell-shaped, on ringed stalks, transparent and very tender, so that specimens gathered amongst the rejectamenta of the sea are mostly deprived of them. Polypes reddish. Vesicles ovate, smooth, axillary, filled with ova in spring. These are numerous, "amounting to twenty or thirty in each vesicle," and like the ova of zoophytes

* Λαομίδεια,—the name of one of the Nereids, according to Hesiod's Theogony. v. 257.