

The radical tubes are flexuous, corneous, and divided at the extremity into two or three small knob-like processes. Branches linear, plane, jointed at their origins, composed of two rows of semialternate oval cells, with an oblique terminal aperture level with the surface, and armed with several short brittle spines. Ellis represents only two spines to each cell, and Pallas follows him in his description, but they are commonly more numerous. Stretched across the mouth of the cells there may occasionally be observed, in dried specimens, an irregularly veined pellucid membrane, undoubtedly the remains of the polype's sac or tunic. Opercula are also to be seen over some cells, but these are not common.

4. C.? AVICULARIA, erect, dichotomous; the cells with two spines at the aperture. Ellis.

PLATE XXXVI. Fig. 7, 8.

Bird's-head Coralline, *Ellis*. Corall. 36, no. 2, pl. 20, fig. a, *A. Cellularia avicularia*, *Pall.* Elench. 68. *Hogg's Stock*. 35.—*Sertularia avicularia*, *Lin.* Syst. 1315. *Berk.* Syn. i. 220. *Wern.* Mem. i. 565. *Turt.* Brit. Faun. 216. *Stew.* Elem. ii. 448.—*Cellaria avicularia*, *Ellis* and *Soland.* Zooph. 22. *Bosc.* Vers, iii. 131. *Lam.* Anim. s. Vert. ii. 141. 2de edit. ii. 191. *Johnston* in *Trans. Newc. Soc.* ii. 262.—*Crisia avicularia*, *Lamour.* Cor. Flex. 141. Corall. 61. *Templeton*, in *Mag. Nat. Hist.* ix. 468.

*Hab.* Parasitical on other corallines in deep water. From the sea-coast near Dublin, *Ellis*. "Mare inter Angliam et continentem terram," *Pallas*. Not very uncommon at Hartlepool, *J. Hogg*. Leith shore, not common, *Jameson*. Scarborough, on stones &c. at low water, not uncommon, *Mr Bean*. Ireland, *Templeton*.

Polypidom caulescent, erect, bushy, from one to two inches in height, membrano-calcareous, silvery or glassy greyish-white, brittle when dry, attached by a fibrous root, the stalk composed of numerous interwoven fibres; primary branches alternate, flabellate, divided dichotomously into many narrow linear flat segments, which are rough and cellular on the upper or inner side, but smooth and longitudinally striate underneath. Cells in two semialternating rows, coalescent, opening on one plane, oblong, flat, their parietes thin and pellucid, a strong spine at each of the superior angles, the aperture subterminal, transverse, generally covered with a large globular pearly operculum placed between the spines; and at the external side there is in many a curious appendage which *Ellis* has aptly compared to a "bird's head, with a crooked beak, opening very wide." These appendages, of unknown use, are about one fourth the size of the cell, and, when the coralline is in a living state, are continually