

often blackish and emitting fibrous radicals; the intervening spaces long, cylindrical, frequently swollen near the upper end, covered all round with lozenge-shaped immersed cells, disposed in quincunx, and radiating from the centre.

In a weak mixture of muriatic acid and water, the calcareous portion of the polypidom is entirely removed without any other alteration in its form and structure, and we learn from the experiment that the joints are connected together by capillary corneous tubes, equal in number to the series of cells. These tubes cannot be traced through the immediate spaces, but from the circumstance of their being hollow, it seems not unreasonable to infer that they may naturally be filled with an irritable pulp, and be the medium of communication between the cells and polypes of the different interspaces. The branches are not tubulous or fistular, as Blainville has properly remarked; whence the impropriety of the Linnæan trivial name, the retention of which only tends to the perpetuation of error.

Under this species Pallas has the following interesting observation: "Celerrime hanc *Cellulariam* crescere, saltem celerius embryone Squali, docuerunt ova Squali Promontorio merid. Africes allata, in quibus plantulas plures semipollicares observavi, quanquam foetum adhuc immaturum continerent."

38. RETEPORA,* Lamarck.

CHARACTER.—Coral foliaceous, stony, fragile, netted: cells opening only on the upper or inner side, short and not prominent.—Polypes ascidian.

1. R. RETICULATA, polypidom latticed, wavy and convolute, the upper side warty and very porous. Rev. William Borlasse.

Millepora retepora, *Borl.* Cornw. 240, pl. 24, fig. 8.—*Millepora reticulata*, *Lin. Syst.* 1284. *Fabric. Faun. Grœnl.* 433. *Ellis and Soland. Zooph.* 138.—*M. frondipora*, *Pall. Elench.* 241.—*Retepora reticulata*, *Lam. Anim. s. Vert.* ii. 182. 2de edit. ii. 275. *Risso, L'Europ. Merid.* v. 343. *Flem. Brit. Anim.* 531. *Stark, Elem.* ii. 435.—*Rétépore réticulée*, *Blainv. Actinolog.* 633.—*Frondipore réticulé.* *Ibid.* 406, pl. 69, fig. 1.

Hab. Deep water, rare. Cornwall, *Borlasse*.

"Expanding to the extent of 2 or 3 inches; more or less cup-shaped, waved, uniting; the lobes are oval, regular, the intervening spaces supporting two or three pores in oblique rows. This species

* From *Rete* and *πορος*, i. e. a "a porous net-work."