

13.)—In some of the large stony corals, the cells for the polypi are very numerous, and the coralline mass presents a surface beautifully marked with stellular impressions. The *astræa viridis* is here represented as seen alive in the sea (Pl. VI. fig. 11). The polypes in this species are of a dark-green colour, more than six lines in length, and are protected by deep, laminated, polygonal cells, two lines in diameter. They are striated with longitudinal and transverse bands, and connected by a fleshy layer which covers the dark, brown coral; some of the polypi are seen expanded, and others contracted. In this magnified view, Pl. VI. fig. 7, of a single polype, the tentacula are shown in an expanded state, disposed around the prominent mouth. The appearance of groups of *astreæ*, and other corals, when viewed while the animals are alive and in activity, is most beautiful; looking down through the clear sea-water, the surface of the rock appears one living mass, and the polypi present the most diversified and vivid hues.

The *pavoniæ* are those corals which have deep and isolated cells, each containing a large depressed polype, very similar in its appearance and structure to the actinia. Pl. VI. fig. 13, represents a group of cells with polypi, of the *P. lactuca*, from the shores of the South Sea islands. The polypi are of a deep-green colour, and there is a connecting, transparent, fleshy substance, which extends over the extreme edges of the foliated expansion of this