

cease to grow. The *Lemna*, or common Duckweed, which consists of a small circular leaf, floating on the surface of stagnant pools, presents a singular instance of the development of germs from the edges of the leaves, and the subsequent separation of the new plant thus formed. In this respect the process is analogous to the natural mode of multiplication met with in the lower orders of Zoophytes, such as the *Hydra*. At the earliest period at which the young of this animal is visible, it appears like a small tubercle, or bud, rising from the surface of the parent hydra: it grows in this situation, and remains attached for a considerable period; at first deriving its nourishment, as well as its mechanical support, from the parent; then occasionally stretching forth its tentacula, and learning the art of catching and of swallowing its natural prey. The tube, which constitutes its stomach, at first communicates by a distinct opening with that of its parent: but this opening afterwards closes; and the filaments by which it is connected with the parent becoming more and more slender, at length break, and the detached hydra immediately moves away, and commences its career of independent existence. This mode of multiplication, in its first period, corresponds exactly with the production of a vegetable by buds; and may therefore be classed among the instances of gemmiparous reproduction; although at a later stage, it differs from it in the complete detachment of the offspring from the parent.

Another plan of reproduction is that in which the germs are developed in the interior of the animal, assuming, at the earliest period when they become animated, the form of the parent. In this case they are termed *gemmules* instead of buds. This mode of reproduction is exemplified in the *Volvox*, which, as we have already seen, is an infusorial animalcule of a spherical form, exhibiting incessant revolving movements.* The germs of this animal are developed, in great numbers, in its interior, having a globular shape, and visible

* Vol. i. p. 139. This animal is delineated in Fig. 79.