

214. *Flem. Brit. Anim.* 551.—*Vesicularia pustulosa*, *Thomp. Zool.* Ill. 99, pl. 1, fig. 5—11.

*Hab.* Parasitical on Fuci. Isle of Wight, *Ellis*. Cove Harbour, *J. V. Thompson*.

This "arises from the surface of marine fuci with a straight flexuose stem, to the height of two or three inches, giving off at each flexure a spreading branch, which in like manner gives off secondary ones, all however, both primary and secondary, lying in the same plane, they are hence what botanists term distich; each flexure of the stem and branches and each terminal branchlet is composed of a distinct joint, each of which are perforated by a double row of holes from 6 to 18 with elevated margins, on all of which in perfect specimens are placed oval transparent vesicles, furnished with animals having 8 tentacula: the rows of perforations having a spiral tendency, the clusters of vesicles hence present themselves in every direction." *Thompson*.

## 25. BOWERBANKIA,\* *Farre*.

**CHARACTER.** *Polypidom confervoid, horny, creeping; the cells sessile, unilateral, irregular, the inflected portion with a spinous or filamentous rim:—Polypes ascidian.*

1. *B. DENSA*, *matted; stem creeping; cells from the sides and upper surface, thickly set, elliptical: Polypes with 10 tentacula about one-third the length of the body, sparingly hispid along the outer side.* *Farre*.

*Bowerbankia densa*, *Farre* in *Phil. Trans.* an. 1837, 391, pl. 20 and 21.

*Hab.* "Found commonly on *Flustra foliacea* thickly aggregated in masses of half of an inch to one inch diameter." Isle of Sheppey, *Farre*.

"The animal when fully expanded is about one-twelfth of an inch in length. In its retracted state it is completely inclosed in a delicate horny cell, sufficiently transparent to admit of the whole structure of the contained animal being seen through its parietes. The cells are connected together by a cylindrical creeping stem, upon which they are thickly set, and sessile, ascending from its sides and upper surface."

\* "Believing it to be new I have named it after my friend Mr Bowerbank, whose zeal displayed on this as on many other occasions where the study of natural history may be promoted, was mainly instrumental in inducing me to follow up these investigations, on account of the many supplies that I received from him, and I gladly therefore take the opportunity of acknowledging and recording the obligation that I am under to him." *Dr Farre*.