

from its place, and swim about hither and thither as it were endowed with volition, turning on its axis frequently, moving sometimes on one side, sometimes on its edge, when the cilia become invisible. I have seen the cilia, when the ovum was at rest, suddenly disappear, withdrawn as it seemed within themselves, or under the opaque margin, and again be quickly protruded. By their motion they drive a current of water over the surface, but this current has certainly not an uninterrupted circular motion—it is rather a flowing to the surface, and a current from it, or as Raspail would express it, an inspiration and expiration of water.—When lying still, I have seen the eggs exhibit the most unequivocal signs of irritability, contracting and dilating themselves. The ovum appears to be formed of a firm elastic coat or shell filled with a granular matter; it is opaque, excepting on the margin, *under* which the cilia appear to originate.

3. *A. ECHINATUM*, *polypidom incrusting dead univalve shells, the surface muricated with rough prominent papillæ or cells.* Mr Montagu.

PLATE xlii. Fig. 3, 4.

*Alcyonium echinatum*, *Flem. Brit. Anim.* 517. *Johnston* in *Trans. Newc. Soc.* ii. 251, pl. 9, fig. 2.—L'A. hérissé, *Blainv. Actinolog.* 525.

*Hab.* Parasitical on *Buccinum undatum* and similar univalve shells; not uncommon. *Stevenston, Ayrshire, Rev. D. Landsborough.* Berwick Bay.

“This species incrusts dead univalve shells exclusively; and is about the one-twentieth of an inch in thickness. When first taken out of the water, it is soft and spongy, but becomes rigid on drying.” The surface in this state is muricated with spinous papillæ, somewhat less than a line in height and rough with minute prickles pointing upwards and arranged in rows. The polypes appear to have only 12 tentacula.

4. *A. ? PARASITICUM*, *incrusting corallines, earthy, the surface even and porous.* Rev. Dr Fleming.

PLATE xli. Fig. 4, 5.

*Alcyonium parasiticum*, *Flem. Brit. Anim.* 518.—L'A. parasite, *Blainv. Actinol.* 525.

*Hab.* Parasitical on *Sertulariadae* and old shells. *Hartlepool, J. Hogg.* On the valve of an old *Venus islandica* dredged from deep water at Scarborough, *Mr Bean.* Berwick Bay, rare.

This production spreads up the stem and branches of various flexible corallines coating them with an incrustation of an earthy appearance, from a line to the eighth of an inch in thickness. The sur-