

are known to undergo somewhat similar changes. The eggs float in the water from their lesser specific gravity, but often they become attached by their spines to the filaments of confervæ, &c. where they float until the young are hatched and afford to them an immediate place of rest.

M. Turpin has ascertained that some varieties of silex contain immense numbers of the ova of the *Cristatella* and *Aleyonella*, preserved in entire perfection. *Ann. des Sc. Nat. Part. Zool. vii. 120*, plates 6 and 7.

#### 43. *ALCYONELLA*,\* Lamarck.

CHARACTER. *Polypidom fixed, incrusting, or floating, in the form of an irregular sponge-like mass composed of vertical aggregated membranaceous tubes opening on the surface.—Polypes ascidian, the mouth encircled with a single series of filiform tentacula depressed or incomplete on one side: eggs coriaceous, smooth.*

#### I. *A. STAGNORUM*.

##### PLATE xlv.

Variation  $\alpha$ . *Sponge-like, massive.*—*Alcyonium fluviatile*, *Bosc, Vers, iii. 159. Corall. 250.*—*Ephydatia Gibbsii, Gray, Brit. Pl. i. 353.*—*Alcyonella stagnorum, Lam. Anim. s. Vert. ii. 102. 2de edit. ii. 116. Stark, Elem. ii. 442. Lamour. Soland. tab. 76, fig. 5—8. (bad.) Teale in Trans. Leeds Phil. and Lit. Soc. i. 116, pl. 12, and in Mag. Zool. and Bot. i. 293.*—*A. fluviatilis, Raspail in Mém. de la Soc. d'Hist. Nat. de Paris, iv. 130, pl. 12—16.*—*L'Alcyonella des étangs, Blainv. Actinolog. 491, pl. 85. fig. 8.*

Variation  $\beta$ . *Polypidom lobed or stellate.*—*Polypes à panache, Tremb. Mem. 210, pl. 10, fig. 8—9. Reaum. Mem. des Insect. vi. pref. lxxvi.*—*The Bell-Flower-Animal or plumed Polype, Baker, Employ. Micros. 306, pl. 12, fig. 15—22.*—*Hydra campanulata, Lin. Syst. edit. 10, 817.*—*Tubularia crystallina, Pall. Elench. 85.*—*T. campanulata, Lin. Syst. 1303. Berk. Syn. i. 215. Shaw Nat. Misc. x. pl. 354. Turt. Gmel. iv. 668. Turt. Brit. Faun. 211. Adams on the Microscope, 449, pl. 22, fig. 32. Bosc, Vers, iii. 92. Blumenb. Man. 272.*—*T. reptans, Bosc, Vers, iii. 93.*—*Plumatella cristata, Lam. Anim. s. Vert. ii. 107. 2de edit. ii. 122. Stark, Elem. ii. 441. Blainv. Actinol. 490. Pl. campanulata, Risso, L'Europ. Merid. v. 308.*—*Naisa reptans, Corall. 99, pl. 6, fig. 4.*—*Cristatella campanulata, Flem. Brit. Anim. 518.*—*C. paludosa, Dalyell in Rep. Brit. Assoc. an. 1834, 606.*

*Hab.* Stagnant waters, especially in such as are tintured with iron

\* A diminutive from *Halcyon*. The sponge-genus *Alcyonellum* of Quoy and Gaymard, being of subsequent creation, cannot be retained.