

phyllum, but with thick and coriaceous leaves, and short leaflets contiguous to, and in part attached to the base; they were obtuse or nearly truncated at the summit, and would present nervures arched or confluent towards that summit.

The essential characters of the vegetation during the Liassic sub-period were:—1. The great predominance of the Cycadeaceæ, thus continuing the development which commenced in the previous period, expanding into numerous genera belonging both to this



Fig. 108.—*Millepora alcicornis*.
(Recent Coral.)

family and that of the *Zamites* and *Nilsonia*; 2. The existence among the Ferns of many genera with reticulated veins or nervures, and under forms of little variation, which scarcely show themselves in the more ancient formations.

On the opposite page (PLATE XVI.) is an ideal landscape of the Liassic period; the trees and shrubs characteristic of the age are the elegant Pterophyllum, which appears in the extreme left of the picture, and the Zamites, which are recognisable by their thick and low trunk and fan-like tuft of foliage. The large horsetail, or Equisetum of this epoch, mingles with the great Tree-ferns and the Cypress, a Conifer allied to those of our own age. Among animals, we see the Pterodactyle specially represented. One of these reptiles