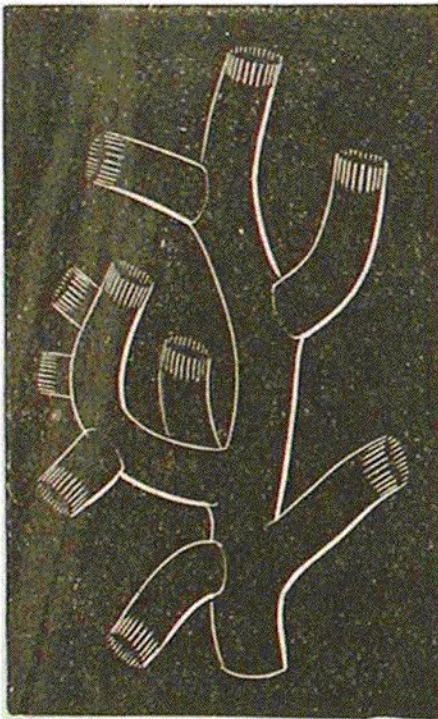


In other cases, the budding cluster is small; and hence makes small branches, as in the annexed figure of a species of *Porites*, from the Feejees. The cells in this genus are very small and nearly or quite superficial, as the figure shows.

New branches are made in such species by a forking of an old one. The budding cluster enlarges as it grows, and, when it is just beginning to pass the regular or normal size for the species, a subdivision of the budding cluster commences at the extremity of the branch. It is a process of spontaneous fission of a branch or stem. In this way the forking in the coral of the figure on page 32 was produced, and also the branching in that on page 33.

Sometimes, again, the budding cluster is a linear series; and then a coral with erect, flattened or lamellar branches is made.



CLADOCORA ARBUSCULA.

Again, sometimes each branch of the corallum is only the corallet of a single polyp; and new branches are added by the budding of new polyps from its sides, each to lengthen out into a new branchlet. In this manner the coral here figured, and many like it, were grown. It is a common species of the West Indies.

When the budding is not confined to any particular polyp, or cluster of polyps, but takes place universally through the growing mass, the coral formed is more or less nearly hemispherical; and often the process goes on with such extreme regularity that these hemispheres are perfectly symmetrical, even when enlarged to a diameter of ten or fifteen feet. A portion of the surface of one of these massive species, called *Orbicella cavernosa*, from the West Indies, is represented in the annexed figure. In the growth of these hemispheres, the enlargement takes place in the spaces between the polyps; and whenever these spaces