

or crowded clusters of such stems branching variously and having each branch surmounted with its one polyp (figure p. 32); or, if there is lateral growth and but little of upward, it produces leaf-like forms and graceful groups or clusters of leaves, vases, and other shapes; or, if the germ-polyp is capable of lateral growth alone, the results are simple lines of polyps creeping over the supporting rock, like the creeping stolons of a plant, or else encrusting plates, spreading outward like a lichen.

In the descriptions of corals the following terms have the significations annexed. Those already mentioned are here repeated to bring them all together.

*Zoöthome*.—The compound animal mass produced by budding.

*Corallum*.—The coral either of the compound mass, or of the solitary polyp.

*Corallet* (in Latin, *corallulum*).—The coral of a single polyp in a compound corallum.

*Calicle*.—The polyp cell in the top of a corallet, or of a solitary corallum, within the walls of the cells; it is sometimes flat at top, that is, without the usual depression.

*Septa*.—The radiated plates of the cell or calicle.

*Dissepiments*.—Small cross plates between adjoining septa (sometimes wanting).

*Synapticulæ*.—Minute cross bars uniting the surfaces of adjoining septa.

*Cœnenchyma*.—The common mass of the corallum between its different polyp cells or corallets, as in the *Madreporæ*, *Gemmiporæ* and *Dendrophylliæ*.

*Epitheca*.—The coral layer sometimes deposited over the exterior of the corallum during the life of the polyp by the outer skin before it dries away, as explained on page 25.

*Peritheca*.—The epitheca of a compound group or zoöthome (fig. p. 50).

*Exotheca*.—The portion of the corallum outside of the walls of cells in many coralla of the *Astræa* family, and some others, in which the polyps of the mass are properly in contact, and there is consequently no true cœnenchyma.

*Endotheca*.—The portion of the corallum inside of the walls of the cell.

We may now state briefly the characteristics of the grander divisions of the Actinoid polyps, several of which have been illustrated in the preceding figures.

The tribes adopted are those recognized by Prof. Verrill, and have the limits he has assigned to them. The classification