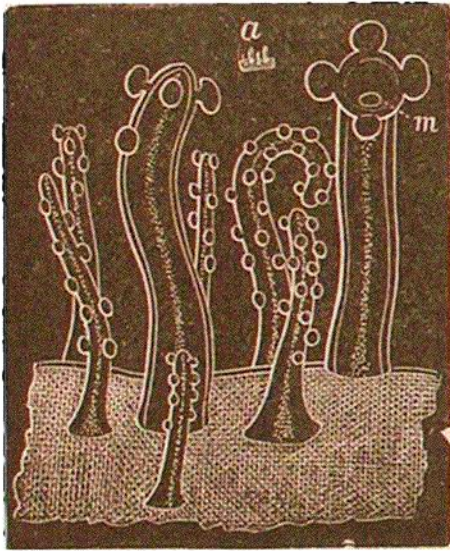


surface, and are always without any prominent calicles, there being only very minute rounded punctures over the surface, from which the animals show themselves. The cells in the corallum are divided parallel to the surface by very thin plates or tables, as in the Pocilliporæ and Favosites ; and they were formerly classed, therefore, with other tabulate corals.

S. P. Sharples found the coral of *M. alicornis* to consist of 97·46 per cent. of carbonate of lime, 0·27 of phosphate of lime, and 2·54 of water and organic matters. The Millepores are very abundant corals, and eminently so in the West India seas, contributing largely to the material of the reefs.

The Hydroids were long considered polyps. But they have been found to give origin to Medusæ, or jelly-fishes, and it



ANIMALS OF MILLEPORA ALICORNIS, MUCH ENLARGED.

is now proved that they are only an intermediate stage in the development of Medusæ, between the embryo state and that of the adult or Medusa state. The Millepores afford, therefore, examples of coral-making by species of the class of Acalephs. Many of these Medusæ and their Hydroids will be found illustrated in the admirable work of Alexander and Mrs. L. Agassiz, entitled "Sea-Side Studies," — an excellent companion for all who take pleasure in sea-shore rambles.

Another genus of corals referred to the Millepora group occurs in the East Indies, the species of which is remarkable for having within an indigo-blue colour ; it is called *Helio-pora cærulea*, the generic name, from the Greek for *sun*, alluding to the minute *round* polyp-cells. This and the true Milleporæ are coral-reef species. A few allied species occur in colder waters, and for these the genus Pliobothrus has been instituted ; one species has been described by De Pourtales, from the deep waters off the Florida reef. The ancient