

FAMILY XIV. ALCYONIDULÆ.

40. ALCYONIDIUM, * Lamouroux.

CHARACTER. Polypidom fleshy, lobed or crustaceous; cells immersed, pentagonal, with fibro-corneous parietes, the aperture terminal, simple, contractile. †—Polypes ascidian.

1. A. GELATINOSUM, polypidom variously lobed or branched, subcylindrical or somewhat compressed, the surface smooth and even. Johnson. ‡

PLATE Xli. Fig. 1-3.

Fucus spongiosus nodosus, Ger. Herb. emac. 1570, no. 10, fig. Raii. Syn. i. 49, no. 42.——Alcyonium, seu fucus nodosus et spongiosus, Ellis Corall. 87. no. 5, pl 32, fig. d. D.——Alcyonium ramosum molle, multis polypis obsessum, Bart. Opusc. Subs. i, 40, tab. 1, fig. 5, A. B.——Alcyonium gelatinosum, Pall. Elench. 353. Lin. Syst. 1295. Mull. Zool. Dan. prod. 255, no. 3082. Ellis and Soland. Zooph. 176. Turt. Gmel. iv. 633. Jameson in Wern. Mem. i. 563. Turt. Brit. Faun. 207. Stew. Elem. ii. 432. Bosc, Vers, iii. 157. Flem. Brit. Anim. 517. Lamour. Cor. Flex. 350. Corall. 249.——L'Alcyon gélatineux, Blainv. Ac-

- * From Alcyonium, to which the name implies a resemblance.
- † According to Dr Farre the retractile portion of the cell, or that which constitutes the base of the polype, is composed of a series of stout short setæ.
- ‡ Johnson, Thomas, born at Selby in Yorkshire; a Lieut. Colonel in the royal army during the civil wars, created M. D. Oxon, in 1643, in consideration of his loyalty and learning; killed in 1644, "at which time his worth did justly challenge funeral tears; being then no less eminent in the garrison for his valour and conduct as a soldier, than famous through the kingdom for his excellency as an herbalist and Physician." See Pultency's Sketches, i. p. 128. &c.