

be distinct from ours, for a very careful examination has satisfied me that the tentacula are 16 in number.

D'Orbigny says that the *Ulva diaphana* of the Flore Française "n'est autre chose qu'un amas de séries d'œufs d'une espèce de gastéropode nu." *Mém. du Museum*, vi. 181. The description, however, so evidently belongs to the *Alcyonidium* before us, as to make it almost certain that this remark has originated in some misapplication of it.

2. *A. HIRSUTUM*, *polypidom variously divided, compressed, the surface covered with minute conical papillæ or polype-cells.* Fleming.

PLATE xlii. Fig. 1, 2.

*Alcyonium gelatinosum*, *Fabric. Faun. Groenl.* 447.—*A. hirsutum*, *Flem. Brit. Anim.* 517. *Johnston in Zool. Journ.* iv. 418. and in *Trans. Newc. Soc.* ii. 251, pl. 9, fig. 1. *L'A. velu*, *Blainv. Actinolog.* 525.

*Hab.* Parasitical on various sea-weeds, at low-water mark, very common on the coasts of Scotland and North of England. Coast of Devonshire, *Mr Jos. Alder*.

Polypidom variously divided, often proliferous, sometimes sub-cylindrical, commonly flattened and palmate, of a dirty straw-yellow colour, often partially stained with red, and marked with numerous yellowish circular spots irregularly disposed. It is thickish, somewhat cartilaginous, and to the naked eye resembles a compact sponge. When viewed through a common magnifier, the surface is seen to be covered with close-set conical transparent papillæ, each of which is a cell containing a polype with 16 long filiform tentacula, and in its structure resembling the polype of a *Flustra*. The yellowish spots, mentioned in the description, are produced by clusters of ova lying imbedded in the cellular texture. These are opaque milk-white, large enough to be easily visible to the eye, of a roundish figure, but not all of them alike, for some are ovate, and others incline to a heart-shape, rather compressed, the surface uneven. The egg is not clothed all over with cilia, but there is a fringe of cilia encircling it; these cilia appear to be of a yellowish colour, and to be hooked near the apices, (wood-cut No. 7, page 51.) They are of equal size and shape, and all inclined in one direction, moving with a uniformity and quickness which is admirable and very pleasing to the beholder. When the egg is at rest, their velocity is not diminished, excepting at the will, so to speak, of the ovum, for it may be seen to become slower and less constant, to cease entirely for a moment, and again be renewed with its former force. The egg at rest will at once start