FAMILY XV. LIMNIADES.

42. CRISTATELLA,* Cuvier.

CHARACTER. *Polypes with about* 60 *tentacula, affixed with-in a floating membranaceous sac, variously aggregated ; a sepa-rate orifice to each ; gemmiparous or oviparous, the ova spinife-rous.*

1. C. MUCEDO. Sir John Graham Dalyell. †
PLATE xliii.

Cristatella mucedo, *Cuv.* Reg. Anim. iii. 296. *Gervais* in Ann. des Sc.
    Nat. part. Zool. vii. 77, n. s. *Turpin* in ibid. vii. 65, pl. 2 and 3, fig.
    1–7.——C. vagans, *Lam.* Anim. s. Vert. ii. 97. 2de edit. ii. 110. *Blainv.*
    Actinolog. 489 and 678, pl. 85, fig. 7. *Bosc*, Vers, iii. 180, pl. 30, fig.
    9. *Stark*, Elem. ii. 442.——C. mirabilis, *Dalyell* in Edin. New. Phil.
    Journ. xvii, 414 ; and in Rep. Brit. Assoc. an. 1834, 604.

Hab. " An inhabitant of the fresh waters of Scotland," *Sir J. G.
Dalyell.*

" Perfect specimens occur from six lines to twenty-four in length,
by two or three in breadth, of a flattened figure, fine translucent green
colour, and fleshy consistence. Some of the shorter, tending to an
elliptical form, may be compared to the external section of an ellip-
soid ; but those of the largest dimensions are linear, that is, with pa-
rallel sides and curved extremities."—" The middle of the upper and
the whole of the under surface are smooth ; the former somewhat
convex, occasioned by a border of 70 or 80, or even of 350 individual
polypi, disposed in a triple row. Their number depends entirely on
the size of the specimen,—increasing as long as it grows."

" This product is endowed with the faculty of locomotion, either
extremity indifferently being in advance, but its progression, uncom-
monly slow, seldom exceeds an inch in twelve or twenty-four hours.
Each of the numerous polypi, though an integral portion of the com-
mon mass, is a distinct animal, endowed with separate action and sen-
sation. The body, rising about a line by a tubular fleshy stem, is
crowned by a head which may be circumscribed by a circle as much

* The diminitive of *cristata*—crested.
† The author of a very interesting work on the Planariæ.