

LITHODENDRON (*Lign.* 55, fig. 3.).—Polyparium branched, formed of deep, cylindrical, elongated cells, which are terminal, and radiated, with a prominent central axis.

Large masses of several species of this genus, composed of clusters of branches, abound in the Mountain limestone of Derbyshire, Yorkshire, &c.; and a few species occur in the Coralline Oolite; their general configuration will be understood by *Lign.* 55, fig. 3; but in the specimen figured, the margins of the cells are worn off, and do not present the original deeply excavated form.

There is a remarkable specimen of this coral in the Bristol Institution (of which a portion is now placed in the Museum of Economical Geology, in London), that was discovered by Mr. Stutchbury, in a vein of hematitic iron ore. It is a large mass, in which the entire substance of the coral is transmuted into a metallic ore, forming one of the most interesting natural electro-types I have ever seen. In this case, a block of Lithodendron must have lain in a vein or fissure of the stratum, and its animal membrane have resisted the action of the gaseous emanations, or mineral solutions, while the lime was dissolved, and the metallic matter deposited atom by atom, as in the case of pseudomorphous crystals.

Besides those we have specified, there are numerous fossil zoophytes in the British strata, many of