

the cenolithic period. The short, anthropolithic period is indicated by the line *n o.* (Compare vol. ii. p. 14.) The height of the separate fields corresponds with the relative length of the periods indicated by them, as they may approximately be estimated from the relative thickness of the neptunic strata deposited between them. (Compare vol. ii. p. 22.) The archilithic and primordial period alone, during which the Laurentian, Cambrian, and Silurian strata were deposited, was probably considerably longer than the four subsequent periods taken together. (Compare vol. ii. pp. 10, 20). In all probability the two tribes of worms and Zoophytes attained their full development during the mid-primordial period (in the Cambrian system); the star-fishes and molluscs probably somewhat later (in the Silurian system); whereas the articulata and vertebrata are still increasing in variety and perfection.

PLATE VII. (*Between pages 146 and 147, Vol. II.*)

*Group of Animal-Trees (Zoophytes, or Cœlenterata) in the Mediterranean.* On the upper half of the plate is a swarm of swimming medusæ and ctenophora; on the lower half a few bunches of corals and hydroid polyps adhering to the bottom of the sea. (Compare the system of Zoophytes, vol. ii. p. 132, and on the opposite page their pedigree.) Among the adhering Zoophytes at the bottom of the ocean there is, below on the right hand, a large coral-colony (1), which is closely akin to the red precious coral (*Eucorallium*), and like the latter belongs to the group of corals with eight rays (*Octocoralla Gorgonida*); the single individuals (or persons) of the branching stock have the form of a star with eight rays, consisting of eight tentacles, which surround the mouth. (*Octocoralla*, vol. ii. p. 143). Directly below and in front of it (quite below on the right), is a small bush of hydroid polyps (2), belonging to the group of bell-polyps, or *Campanulariæ* (vol. ii. p. 146). A larger stock of hydroid polyps (3), belonging to the group of tube-polyps, or *Tubulariæ*, rises, to the left, on the opposite side, with its long thin branches. At its base is spread a stock of silicious sponges (*Halichondria*)