

ture about 7° C.), whereas along the Norwegian coasts it is chiefly found in quite shallow water, where it attains its fullest development. *Ascidiella virginea* and *Styela loveni* were fairly widely distributed. A large globular compound ascidian (*Macroclinum pomum*, see Fig. 350), although very local, was at times very plentiful.

The attached fauna, which, properly speaking, includes the sea-squirts, is mainly represented by three groups: sponges, hydroids, and bryozoans, the two last forming occasionally regular little forests. On the northern slope of the Dogger Bank (depth 38 metres, temperature 10° C.) there were considerable quantities of large bush-like colonies of two species of bryozoans (*Flustra securifrons*, see Fig. 351, and *Alcyonidium*

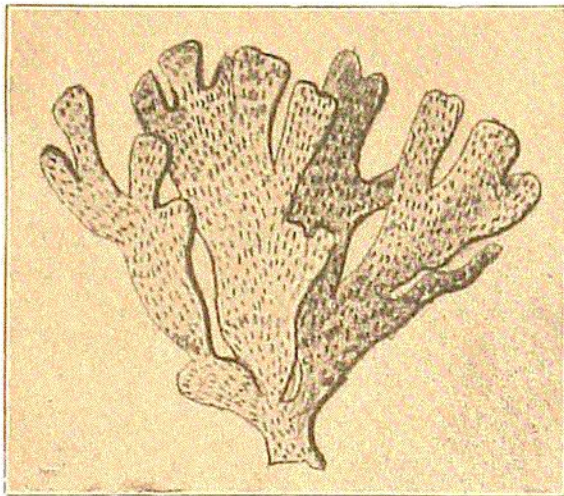


FIG. 351.
Flustra securifrons, Pallas.

gelatinosum), which, with *Flustra foliacea*, are the most characteristic of the North Sea bryozoans; they vary in relative abundance, but on the Great Fisher Bank *Flustra foliacea* appears to be the predominant form. Small bryozoans, sometimes occurring in large quantities, are found growing on the bigger species or on other substances.

Hydroids are distributed over the whole area examined wherever the bottom is suitable, especially where it is covered with empty shells or stones. They sometimes form "communities," but are as a rule scattered about here and there. *Tubularia larynx* is occasionally met with in enormous quantities, and there are sometimes "communities" of *Thujaria thuja* (see Fig. 352), *Hydrallmannia falcata*, *Campanularia longissima*, and *C. verticillata*. The species of *Dicoryne* and *Hydractinia* are very often found on shells inhabited by hermit crabs.¹ The hydroids in the central portion of the North Sea differ to a certain extent from those found in the northern portion or on the other plateaus. *Thujaria* and *Hydrallmannia* are, however, common to both areas.

Among cœlenterates there are really only two forms, if we

¹ *Dicoryne conferta*, *Hydractinia echinata*; other species commonly found in the North Sea are *Campanularia johnstoni*, *Plumularia pinnata*, *Lafœa dumosa*.