

varying in size from about 14 to 20 mm. in diameter and from 5 to 8 mm. in depth; walls simple, often quite thin, generally thickened, slightly rounded, and about 2 mm., rarely 3 mm., wide. Septa unequal; very thin within the cup, with numerous, rather long, fine teeth; much thickened, and projecting but slightly at the edges, being from about 1 to 1.5 mm. thick, with slightly swollen fistular teeth, which are often nearly 2 mm. long; of five cycles in the large calices, the last being quite incomplete and very small, distinct only on the sides; in the smaller calices the fourth cycle is incomplete and small. As the small septa are not continued to the centre, wide and open interseptal spaces are seen, in the centre of which is a scant, papillose columella.

The species seems to take an almost intermediate position between the *Acanthastræa hirsuta*, Milne-Edwards and Haime, and the *Acanthastræa angulosa*, Brüggemann. From the former it is distinguished by the larger and shallower cells, by its thinner, nearly rounded, simple wall, and by the thinner, more numerous, and very unequal septa: from the latter, by its larger and deeper cells, by its thicker, more rounded wall, and by its more thickened, fistular, more equally prominent septa, which, being less crowded towards the centre, leave the endotheca clearly visible at the bottom of the wide, interseptal spaces. In the *Acanthastræa angulosa*, the larger septa are very irregularly and raggedly prominent above the thin wall, and give a striking appearance to the corallum.

A single rather small specimen only was collected.

*Locality*.—Kandavu, Fiji.

#### Genus 21. *Prionastræa*, Milne-Edwards and Haime.

*Prionastræa et Metastræa*, Milne-Edwards and Haime, Cor., ii. pp. 513, 525.

*Prionastræa*, Duncan, Rev. Madrep., p. 123.

This genus has been extended by Professor Duncan to include the *Metastræa* of Milne-Edwards and Haime.

Four species were obtained.

##### 1. *Prionastræa flexuosa* (Dana).

*Astræa flexuosa*, Dana, Zoophytes, p. 227, pl. xi. fig. 6.

The cells are very irregular, often much elongated, curved and narrow, but deep; the ridges are scarcely or not at all sulcate: the septa of five cycles, the last imperfectly developed. The walls are often quite thin.

*Locality*.—Kandavu, Fiji.