Genus 6. Psammocora, Dana.

Psammocora, Dana, Zoophytes, p. 344.

" Milne-Edwards and Haime, Cor., iii. p. 219.

Duncan, Rev. Madrep., p. 192.

Recent investigation has shown that this genus must be placed under the Fungida and not under the Perforata, as in the system of Milne-Edwards and Haime.

Three species are in the collection.

1. Psammocora exesa, Dana.

Psammocora exesa, Dana, Zoophytes, p. 348, pl. xxvi. fig. 1.

A small specimen of this species occurs in the collection. It is a broken specimen, with short and thick, obtuse lobes; the surface is roughened by irregular, low, somewhat sinuous, obsolescent ridges, between which the cells are placed either singly or in groups. The cells are generally very shallow and indistinct; and the septa are from ten to twenty in number, uniformly very thin and finely granular, often very small, and united with each other. The surface between the cells is of very open and porous texture, having the form of oval or elongated, rectangular, interseptal areas, arranged somewhat as in a spider's web, an arrangement apparently due to an abundant and regular development of synapticulæ.

Locality.—Amboina.

2. Psammocora obtusangula (Lamarck).

Pavonia obtusangula, Lamarck, Hist. Anim. sans Vert., ii. p. 240, 1816. Psammocora obtusangula, Dana, Zoophytes, p. 345.

A large, broken specimen was obtained, which is in all respects typical of the species. Locality.—Tongatabu.

3. Psammocora ramosa, n. sp. (Pl. VI. figs. 6-6b).

Corallum consisting of a cluster of numerous, rather thick, elongated, uneven, and somewhat contorted branches which spring from a thick, basal stock; the branches are subterete, much and rather closely divided, not coalescent, from 8 to 12 mm. thick; continued above into short, irregular, compressed, clavate, or palmate branchlets, the terminal divisions being rather thick and obtuse, and often terete; the corallum throughout is somewhat irregularly swollen or nodose owing to unequal rudimentary branches and branchlets. Calicles very small, 0.75 mm. wide, rather distant, ruperficial, with a minute depression at the centre, in which a very minute tuberculate