

short and irregular, and indicate the characteristic shape of the species as described by Dana.

Locality.—Reefs, Fiji.

3. *Madrepora palmata*, Lamarck.

Madrepora palmata, Lamarck, Hist. Anim. sans Vert., ii. p. 278, 1816.

As pointed out by Pourtales¹ from actual observation on the Florida reefs of a large number of specimens, of all sizes and ages, *Madrepora flabellum*, Lamarck, *Madrepora alces*, Dana, *Madrepora cornuta*, Duchassaing and Michelotti, and *Madrepora thomasi-ana*, Duchassaing and Michelotti, are but varieties of this species, and "pass from one to the other by gradations among which it is impossible to draw the limit." A series of specimens in the collection fully bears out this conclusion.

Locality.—St. Thomas, West Indies.

4. *Madrepora prolifera*, Lamarck.

Madrepora prolifera, Lamarck, Hist. Anim. sans Vert., ii. p. 281, 1816.

A single specimen of this species was obtained. It is very close to *Madrepora cervicornis*, and bears out the remark of Pourtales as to the doubtfulness of their specific difference.²

The figure in the Report on the Florida Reefs, pl. xix., can scarcely be considered typical of the species, since it presents a form with the thick, short calicles which are more generally characteristic of *Madrepora cervicornis*. The calicles in this species are generally very long, tubular, and rather slender, especially towards the distal parts.

Madrepora ethica, Duchassaing and Michelotti, does not seem to be separable from this species.

Locality.—St. Thomas, West Indies.

5. *Madrepora cervicornis*, Lamarck.

Madrepora cervicornis, Lamarck, Hist. Anim. sans Vert., ii. p. 281, 1816.

A fine example of this species was obtained. The form, size, length, and striation of the calicles are very variable in the species; and the variable thickness of the corallum in a series of specimens is a marked feature.

A very good figure of the species is given in the Report on the Florida Reefs, pl. xviii.

Locality.—St. Thomas, West Indies.

¹ *Illus. Cat. Mus. Comp. Zoöl.*, No. iv. p. 83.

² *Illus. Cat. Mus. Comp. Zoöl.*, No. iv. p. 84.