of tentacles and their high coloring, are so prominent that they entirely mask the coral; but in a few—as, for example, in a brain-coral, *Diploria cerebriformis,* which seems to thrive at Bermudas better than almost anywhere else, forming domes six or eight feet in diameter—the animal matter is in comparatively small quantity, and covers the coral with what appears little more than a coating of grayish or yellow mucus. The *Gorgoniæ,* the *Bryozoa,* and the *Hydroid* zoophytes are like the other more prominent weeds in the field, as abundant and as irregularly distributed, growing in the spaces between the clumps of the different kinds of coral. One form, *Millepora,* which has been latterly classed with the hydroids, but which would seem to be more nearly related to the lost order *Anthozoa rugosa,* represented by two species, *M. alcicornis* and *M. ramosa,* is extremely abundant at Bermudas, where it acts in every way the part of a coral, forming massive additions to the reef of carbonate of lime abstracted from the sea. Beneath these large things there is usually a close felting of an undergrowth, consisting partly of sponges and smaller zoophytes, but chiefly of what are sometimes called lithophytes, sea-weeds of such genera as *Corallina, Melobesia,* and *Nullipora,* which, like corals, take carbonate of lime from the sea-water and incorporate it with their tissues.

All these things, living and dying, are constantly yielding a fine powder of lime, which sinks down and compacts in the spaces among their roots; and every breaker of the eternal surf grinds down more material and packs it into every hollow and crevice capable of receiving and retaining it. A great order of worms, including the genus *Serpula,* secrete carbonate of lime, and form thick and large calcareous tubes, or make galleries through the partially consolidated calcareous mud, and harden it and bind it together. So great a part do these worms play in the construction of the reefs at Bermudas, that General Nelson, in an admirable paper on the geology of the islands, pub-