STRUCTURE OF MILLEPORA. Chap. xx.]

The Dactylozooids eatch food for the colony, and deliver it to the Gastrozooids, which alone are able to swallow and digest it.

All the polyps of the colony are in communication at their bases with the canal system already described, and by means of these canals the nutritive fluids derived by the gastrozooids from the food are distributed to the entire colony and nourish it. There is thus a very complete division of labour in the colony.

In all species of Millepora the mouthless polyps are much PORTION OF THE HARD CORAL OF more numerous than the mouthbearing ones. In some species



MILLEPORA NODOSA. (Twice the natural size.)

the gastropores and dactylopores are scattered irregularly over the surface of the colonies. In the Tahitian species, however,



ENLARGED VIEW OF PORTION OF THE SURFACE OF A LIVING MILLEPORA NODOSA, SHOWING THE EXPANDED ZOOIDS OF A SINGLE SYSTEM. In the centre is the short mouth bearing Gastrozooid ; around are the mouthless Dactylozooids.

they are for the most part gathered into definite groups or systems, each consisting of a centrally placed gastropore sur-