

relation to the coral. The true polyp body, he says, lies at the bottom of the central cavity of the calicle. It is very small, almost hemispherical in form, and provided with an apparently protrusible beak or proboscis, which is sharply defined and bluntly conical in form, and on which no mouth opening was observable. From the circumference of the head of the polyp proceed the narrowly cylindrical tentacles which correspond in number to the infoldings of the calicle. Their lower region is inserted in the interseptal canals, while their upper parts project free from the foldings in between the so-called septa, and usually bend with their bluntly rounded ends towards the centre. No distinct connection between the different polyp cavities was to be observed. They all seemed completely closed below; but it is to be remarked that the whole upper lining part of the coral is highly porous. Often there were to be found outside real polyp cavities in the inner mass of the coral near the surface, small cavities apparently everywhere closed, wherein were included one or several spherical bodies (eggs?). Portions of the coral were decalcified in acetic acid. The organic basis remaining preserved to a considerable extent the form of the coral, and was composed of a tolerably regular network of apparently fibrous tissue in which were embedded numerous small elliptical nematocysts. The body of the polyp could be prepared out with considerable ease from this mass in connection with its several tentacles, which under the microscope showed themselves beset all over with extremely small tightly-packed nematocysts.

Although Sars thus suspected the affinity of the Stylasteridæ to the Hydroïda, his results were insufficient to demonstrate the fact, since he could obtain no satisfactory information concerning the generative structures of the coral which he studied, and he failed entirely to detect the compound nature of the cyclo-systems of *Allopora*, since he regarded the dactylozoids as the tentacles of the gastrozoid, or body of the polyp, as he terms it. He, however, determined a great deal which was of high value. He was the first to make any observations on the structure of the soft parts of the Stylasteridæ, and is as yet the only naturalist who has watched a Stylasterid in the living condition.

He concludes his account with the following words, which show that he was not certain as to the true nature of *Allopora*, although he considered there were strong grounds for removing it from amongst the Anthozoa:—

“Af det allerede anforte synes imidlertid med sikkerhed at fremgaa, at vi her have for os en Dyrform der i mange væsentlige Punkter afviger fra Anthozoenne hvortil den maaske slet ikke engang kan henføres.”