

such branches. The branches and branchlets are nearly circular in section, and have a hirsute or finely spinous appearance. This appearance is due to their being beset all over their surfaces with small nariform projections, the wide openings of which are all turned towards the tips of the branches. These nariform projections vary much in form, being often drawn out into tubes opening by a slit-like mouth on the side next the tip of the branch, and frequently coalescing, especially towards the tips of the branches, so that two or three of the projections have a common base.

These projections are the prolongations of the walls of the dactylopores beyond the main surface of the cœnosteum. Their cavities, the pores, are simply tubular without any style, and extend for a short distance into the mass of the branch, on which they are situate in an oblique direction, in continuance of the oblique inclination of the nariform projections. The dactylopore projections are very numerous and closely set towards the tips of the branchlets, more widely scattered upon the surfaces of the branches and almost absent on the main stems.

Scattered over the surfaces of the branches and branchlets are the mouths of the gastropores, which are tubular cavities larger than the dactylopores, but with a similar oblique direction towards the axes of the branches, and are provided with a calcareous style, with a finely dentate surface (Pl. IV. ST). The mouths of the gastropores are irregularly circular in outline, their margins being frequently broken and indented by the confluence with the pore cavities of the superficial channels of the surface of the cœnosteum. The gastropores are frequently situate beneath the bases of the dactylopore projections, so as to be covered by these as by a projecting lip; and in places the margins of the gastropores themselves are drawn out into scale-like lips, though these lips are nearly always fused with nariform projections of contiguous dactylopores. Gastropores are frequently to be seen occurring isolated and solitary on the branches.

The ampullæ are, in this genus, conspicuous bodies, since they appear as hemispherical projections from the surfaces of the branches of about the size of a mustard-seed. In vigorous specimens they are closely crowded together in masses on both sides of the branches and branchlets in various regions of the flabellum. The ampullæ commence as small cavities in the surface layer of the cœnosteum of the branches, and gradually enlarging in accordance with the development of the ovum contained in each, project more and more, until those containing mature, or nearly mature, planulæ appear as the conspicuous projections above described. A hemispherical cavity, excavated in the surface of the cœnosteum, corresponds with each ripe ampulla, but the excavation is usually not deep enough to render the entire ampullar cavity spherical in form. The cavity has rather the form of a sphere with one side somewhat flattened. In accordance with the gradual expansion of the ampullar cavity, its outer wall, which is finely reticular in structure, becomes thinner and thinner until, no doubt, it at last