

large cavity of a similar kind within the calyx is the type hitherto known as *Actinometra robusta*, of which I wrote as follows :¹—"Just above the dorsal surface of the radial the axial furrow occupying the median line of its internal face gives off a large horizontal diverticulum into the substance of its calcareous tissue, which extends outwards for some distance between the central canal and the dorsal surface of the radial ; and, like the axial furrow, or canal as it is in the natural condition when the rosette is *in situ*, encloses a dorsal extension of the body-cavity or coelom."

In *Actinometra robusta*, therefore, the radial axial canal, though it terminates blindly at the top of the centro-dorsal, communicates with a large cavity in the lowest part of the radial ; while in *Antedon quinduplicava* this cavity is outside and below the first radial, between it and the centro-dorsal.

The presence or absence of this cavity may prove to be a point of some importance in assisting a future decision, as to whether *Antedon quinduplicava* is or is not identical with *Antedon anceps*, a question which must wait till a further supply of material is obtained.

Note on Antedon fluctuans.

Since the printing off of pp. 94-96, which contain the description of *Antedon fluctuans*, I have had occasion to revise the tridistichate species of *Antedon* that have been classified as having articulated radials. Among these is *Antedon elegans*, which was described by Bell in 1884 from three specimens obtained by the "Alert" at Port Moller in Queensland.²

I had made a cursory examination of the greater part of the Comatulæ dredged by the "Alert" some time previously, but had not been able to identify any representative of the type which appeared in my working list of new Challenger species as *Antedon fluctuans*. Subsequently, however, as pointed out on p. 95, I recognised this type in an imperfect specimen from Torres Strait, which was in too mutilated a condition for description with the rest of the "Alert" collection.

Bell noticed expressly³ that among the species of *Antedon* which he did describe in the report, "in no case is the radial axillary a syzygy."

I have already pointed out, however, on p. 98, that there is a syzygy between the second and axillary radials of *Antedon microdiscus*, which is one of Bell's new species ; and I now find that the same is the case in all three examples of his *Antedon elegans*, which I examined in August last for the purpose of definitely making out its relation to the other tridistichate species of *Antedon* with articulated radials, before drawing up a classification of the group.

¹ *Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond. (Zool.)*, ser. 2, 1879, vol. ii. pp. 86, 87.

² "Alert" Report, p. 162. pl. xiii. figs. B, Ba.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 155.