

*Aphanipathes? humilis* (Pourt.).

*Antipathes humilis*, Pourtalès, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., 1868, p. 112; Cat. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., No. iv., 1871, p. 54; *Ibid.*, No. viii., 1874, p. 46, pl. ix., fig. 9; Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., 1878, p. 210; *Ibid.*, 1880, p. 118, pl. iii. figs. 18, 19, 32.

Mode of branching dense and irregularly subflabellate, like a spray of heather; branches irregularly dichotomous, spreading more laterally than vertically, height 7.5 to 10 cm., spread 10 to 12.5 cm. Spines slender, and longer than the diameter of the branch, very dense, forming alternate dilations and contractions, each dilation corresponding to a polyp.

Polyps all on the same side of the flabellum, about one diameter apart. Tentacles very short, when contracted forming small knobs, shorter than the spines, and placed in two longitudinal rows, with the mouth between the middle pair. The spines surrounding the polyp larger than in other parts, and largest inside the polyp, in the spaces between the tentacles. Mouth surmounting a tubercle, surrounded by about twelve papillæ in a close circle; a second circle of papillæ occurs on the peristome just inside the tentacles, and similar ones are scattered on the whole surface of the ectoderm.

A variety dredged off Barbadoes differs from the type by its more simple and regular mode of branching. The short stem throws off on each side at different heights a simple branch forming a short curve and then growing parallel to the main stem. From the base of that branch another sets off in the same manner, and so on, so that the whole resembles certain fruit trees trained on a wall. The type specimens branch according to the same plan, but do not adhere to it so regularly. Pourtalès gives a photograph of this variety in his Catalogue of Corals (pl. ix. fig. 9), which suggests at once the habit of *Eunicea succinea*, Esp.

The arrangement of spines in this species is most curious. The axis is clothed with a dense mass of acicular spines, which on the posterior surface are relatively short and directed upwards. On the zooidal surface of a branch they form dense moniliform tufts, each corresponding to a polyp. The tufts are oval in outline, and consist of innumerable elongate spines radiating in all directions. The polyps in spirit specimens are almost completely hidden amongst the elongate spines, which project for a considerable distance beyond the surface of the peristome.

*Habitat.*—Abundant off Havana in 270 fathoms; also in 76–262 fathoms at four stations off Montserrat, Grenada, St. Vincent, and Barbadoes (Pourtalès.)

*Aphanipathes? thyroides* (Pourt.).

*Antipathes thyroides*, Pourtalès, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., 1880, p. 115, pl. iii. figs. 17 and 31.

Corallum densely flabellate, but entirely without adherences of branchlets, which ramify from the sides of the branches without showing any regular pinnate arrangement.