

Unfortunately the polyps are very badly preserved, so that I have been unable to obtain much information from a study of sections. They are distributed in two rows on opposite sides of a branch; sometimes they are arranged alternately one length or more apart, at others they are subopposite. It appears probable that there must be some collection of circular muscular fibres representing a sphincter (Röttcken's) muscle, as the tentacles may be completely covered by the margin of the body-wall when in a state of contraction. The tentacles are thick fleshy processes, having a length equal to the height of a polyp, and bear eight or ten digitiform branches of variable length (Pl. X. figs. 3, 4). The number of tentacles is uncertain, but I think it probable that there are only six. I am also at present unable to give any definite information as to the number and arrangement of the mesenteries.

*Habitat.*—Station 343; March 27, 1876; lat. 8° 3' S., long. 14° 27' W., off Ascension; depth, 425 fathoms; bottom, volcanic sand.

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SPECIES INCERTÆ SEDIS.

Nearly all the forms included in this section are probably good species, but it is at present impossible to assign them a definite generic position owing to the want of information regarding the structure of their polyps. In order to distinguish the generic name *Antipathes*, in its restricted sense, from the unmodified genus which practically includes the whole of the Antipathidæ, the word when used in the latter sense has been included within square brackets.

[*Antipathes*] *corticata*, Lamk.

*Antipathes corticata*, Lamarck, Hist. nat. anim. sans vert., t. ii. p. 306; Dana, Zooph., p. 583.

*Hyalopathes corticata*, Milne-Edwards, Coralliaires, t. i. p. 324; Haeckel, Arabische Korallen, pl. i. fig. 6.

“A. caule parce ramoso, corticato, spinis numerosis echinato, cortice poris nullis” (Lamk., *op. cit.*).

Haeckel; in his Arabische Korallen, has given us a figure of a living colony of this species, by which it is seen that the polyps have the tentacles arranged in a radiate manner, the individuals being distributed at various points around the axis, and not in linear series. In this species the polyps are very distant, apparently in two or three irregular rows. I know of no other species approaching it in this respect, but an examination of the polyps is necessary before its generic position can be definitely