

semper in latum expansus, rigidus, inordinatus. Truncus ab imo fere ramosus, creberrime subdivisus. Rami divaricati curvuli confusique assurgunt, creberrimisque ramulis alternis vel subsecundis, reclinatis fere, inter se coalescunt; junioribus passim, setaceis sparsi. Lignum atrum, scabrum, setaceis ramulis hispidius, subtetaceum" (Pallas, *op. cit.*).

Morison's specimen (6, No. 18, pl. x.), which Pallas includes in this species, has, as already stated, a close resemblance to the lower part of the corallum of *Antipathella contorta*. The branches are strong, and form an irregular reticulum; the branchlets are extremely slender, pinnate or bipinnate. It does not appear from the definition of Pallas that much stress is laid on this marked contrast between the thickness of the branches and branchlets.

An old and fragmentary specimen in the British Museum may possibly be referable to this species, but the branchlets are not nearly so delicate as those figured by Morison. This specimen differs from all other Antipathinæ, with the exception of the genus *Arachnopathes*, M.-Edw., as I understand it, in possessing a corallum which, though flattened, is 6 or 8 cm. thick. A figure of the arrangement of the spines in this specimen is given on Pl. XI. fig. 10.

*Habitat.*—Indian Ocean.

*Arachnopathes aculeata*, n. sp. (Pl. XI. fig. 11).

Corallum consisting of a delicate oval mass of branches and branchlets 24 cm. high, 20 cm. broad, and 11 cm. thick. The branchlets and pinnules are somewhat flexible, and not fused into such a firm mass as in other species of the genus. The branches are slender and irregularly divided. The branchlets in the upper portion of the corallum are from 3 to 5 cm. in length and about 0.3 mm. in thickness. They bear a number of more slender pinnules, mostly sublateral, but a few extend in a plane almost at right angles to the others. They are from 0.5 to 1.5 cm. long, usually simple, and rather irregularly arranged, about two to four to a centimetre. Near the middle of the specimen the branchlets are longer and stronger, and bear a greater number of pinnules, most of which spring from the same side of the branchlet. In one portion, which may be taken as an illustration, twenty-three pinnules occur to 5 cm. They are chiefly lateral in position, and fifteen are arranged on one side and only eight on the other. The eight pinnules on the one side are all simple, and vary from 0.5 to 1.5 cm. in length. Those on the other side are usually longer (1.5 to 2.5 cm.), and bear a secondary and sometimes a tertiary series of pinnules, but two or three remain short and simple. The longer pinnules bear two to seven secondary spreading pinnules, mostly on one side, and directed downwards. Some of the secondary pinnules may be 1 to 1.5 cm. long, and