

[*Antipathes*] *melancholica*, Duch.

*Antipathes melancholica*, Duchassaing, Rev. d. Zooph. et d. Spong. d. Antilles, p. 23.

Humilis, ramosa, ramis sparsis, distiche pinnatis; pinnulis remotis, per totam longitudinem alternatim nodosis ac strangulatis, inde quasi articulatis.

Duchassaing says that this form approaches *Antipathes dissecta*, D. and M., but may be distinguished by its smaller size, by its more isolated and robust pinnules, on which the "nodes" are less frequent. Further, the branches which bear the pinnules also have the "nodes," whereas in *Antipathes dissecta* this is not the case. The colour of the sclerenchyma is a greyish black. The difference between this form and *Antipathes dissecta*, D. and M., is evidently not great, so far as Duchassaing has noted it, and I should include it as probably synonymous with the latter species, were it not that I presume the "nodes" of which he speaks are really dried polyps, and not thickenings in the sclerenchyma. This view appears to be supported by Duchassaing's statement that "nodes" are present on the branches of *Antipathes melancholica*, and absent on those of *Antipathes dissecta*. In a small colony like that of *Antipathes melancholica* the polyps would probably be developed on both branches and pinnules, whereas in large ones (*Antipathes dissecta* is 2 to 3 feet high) there is a greater tendency for the polyps to be confined to the younger portions of the colony. Even should they prove to be successive series of longer and shorter spines, as in *Antipathes humilis*, Pourt., this would indicate that the polyps of this species are either larger or further apart (or both), a character which, taken with those already indicated by Duchassaing, would probably be sufficient justification for separating the two forms. This, however, is only supposition, and until we obtain more precise information on the subject, it may be well to keep the two forms separate. It should be mentioned that *Antipathes dissecta*, D. & M., has here been regarded as probably synonymous with *Leiopathes glaberrima*, Esper, in consequence of its similarity to that species and from the fact that the latter has been shown by Pourtalès to occur in the West Indies.

*Habitat*.—Off Desirade Island (Lesser Antilles), associated with *Antipathes taxiformis* (Duch.).

[*Antipathes*] *isidis-plocamos*, Klunz.

*Antipathes isidis-plocamos*, Klunzinger, Korallth. d. rothen Meeres, Abth. i. p. 61, pl. iv. fig. 5.

[*A. isidis-plocamos*, Ehrenb., Korallenth. d. rothen Meeres, p. 154.

? *A. compressa*, Esp., *pars*, Pflanzenth., Tab. xiii. fig. 1, non figs. 2, 3.]

Under this name Klunzinger has described some fragments of an Antipatharian from the Red Sea. The lower portion appears as if consisting of two stems fused together.