

The ramification is very abundant, every branch giving off twigs, and these giving off lateral twigs to the fifth order. The twigs are always given off at sharp angles. The ramification of the end of the branch frequently takes place in a different plane from the twigs at its commencement, which is caused by the fact that the end of the main branch is bent at an angle out of the horizontal.

The tips of the branches and twigs are thin and hair-like. The axis of the stem and of the twigs is horny, with calcareous deposits at the base of the stem, and in the finer twigs it is flexible and elastic. The colour of the stem and thicker branches is a dark brown, surface shining, iridescent; that of the finer twigs is a glistening yellow.

The cœnenchyma is very thin and transparent, so that the axis is visible all through.

The polyps are cylindrical, with broad bases, scarcely thickened at the ends, 1 to 1.5 mm. long. They are absent on the stem; on the twigs there is, for the most part, one on each node. Only on the end twigs are there from two to three, of which one is immediately below the apex.

The surface layer of spicules consists of thick spindles, blunt at the ends, which lie close together. Their direction in the polyps follows the longitudinal direction of the latter, they are continued up the tentacles in three or four rows. Their surface is raised into slight warts, which with a low power can only be recognised as slight marginal teeth, but with a high power (Hartnack 7) they appear as the expression of rugose elevations, which are placed concentrically around a central nucleus, and might be considered as lines of growth. The size of the spicules reaches—height to breadth in mm. 0.31–0.05; 0.3–0.06; 0.3–0.05; 0.27–0.04.

The lower layer consists of oval, biscuit-shaped, lancet-shaped, flat scales, mostly with finely toothed edges, which are united together by interlocking of the teeth. Length to breadth—0.22–0.1; 0.15–0.06; 0.14–0.03; 0.11–0.03; 0.13 mm.

*Habitat.*—Station 192; off the Ki Islands, south of Papua; depth, 140 fathoms; bottom, blue mud. Three examples.

[4. *Dasygorgia agassizii*, Verrill.

*Dasygorgia agassizii*, Verrill, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., vol. xi. No. 1, p. 22, pl. ii. figs. 4, 4a, 4b, 1883.

*Habitat.*—George's Bank; lat. 41° 24' 45" N., long. 65° 35' 30" W.; depth, 1242 fathoms. No specimen was obtained by the Challenger.

5. *Dasygorgia elegans*, Verrill.

*Dasygorgia elegans*, Verrill, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., vol. xi. No. 1, p. 23, 1883.

*Habitat.*—Off Granada, 291 fathoms. Off Barbados, 237 and 347 fathoms. No specimen was obtained by the Challenger.]