

Here, as in *Schizotricha unifurcata*, the first bifurcation takes place in the second segment of the hydrocladium, this segment carrying a hydrotheca without nematophores in the angle of the bifurcation, and being preceded by a very short segment destitute of hydrotheca.

Dredged at Station 151, February 7, 1874, off Heard Island; depth, 75 fathoms; bottom, mud.

Polyplumaria, G. O. Sars.

Polyplumaria, G. O. Sars, Forhandl. Vidensk. Selsk. i. Christiania, 1873.

Diplopteron, Allman, Trans. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1873.

GENERIC CHARACTER. *Trophosome*.—Hydrocladia each with an accessory hydrotheca, bearing ramulus, which springs from its proximal internode.

Gonosome.—Gonangia borne by the basal segment of the primary pinnae.

In a report on the Hydroids collected during the expeditions of H.M.S. "Porcupine," read at a meeting of the Zoological Society of London in February 1873, I described as a new genus and species, under the name of *Diplopteron insigne*, a very beautiful Plumularian dredged off the north-west coast of Spain, from a depth of 364 fathoms, during one of these expeditions.¹

G. O. Sars had, however, in the same month, but a few days earlier, described under the generic name of *Polyplumaria*, a Hydroid from the Norwegian Seas, which I believe must be generically associated with the Hydroid of the "Porcupine."² The priority of description thus lies with Sars, and though he does not appear to me to have seized on the essential characters of the genus, the name *Diplopteron* must sink into a mere synonym of *Polyplumaria*.

I have here modified the diagnosis of *Diplopteron* as originally given, a diagnosis which, founded as it was on a single species, was too exclusive to admit forms which ought not to be generically separated. In the three species of which the genus *Polyplumaria* now consists, the most striking feature is the accessory ramulus, to which the hydrothecal pinnae give origin. This ramulus springs from every hydrothecal pinna near to its origin, and is itself composed of internodes which carry hydrothecæ similar to those of the pinna from which it springs.

Sars, it is true, does not describe the accessory ramulus as constant, but as it was never wanting in any of the specimens examined by me, being, on the contrary, always very characteristic, I cannot but regard its absence from some of the branches in Sar's specimens as accidental.

¹ Report on the Hydroids collected during the expeditions of H.M.S. "Porcupine." *Trans. Zool. Soc. Lond.*, vol. viii. p. 8.

² G. O. Sars, Bidrag til Kundskaben om Norges Hydroida. *Forhandl. Vidensk. Selsk. i. Christiania*, 1873.