

rectangular hexradiate, smooth, long and slender, radii subclavate. Retentive spicula trifurcated attenuato-hexradiate stellate, minute and very numerous. Gemmules membranous, aspicular." "Colour unknown in the living state. Hab.—Barbados (Dr. Cutting) Martinique, M. Pléc, 1829. Examined in the skeleton state."

Of the genus *Iphiteon*—a name which Bowerbank has ascribed to Valenciennes,¹—Bowerbank accurately described five species in 1869,² namely, *Iphiteon panicea* (Valenciennes), Bowerbank, *Iphiteon beatrix*, Gray, *Iphiteon subglobosa*, Gray, *Iphiteon ingalli*, Bowerbank, and *Iphiteon callocyathes*, Gray.

The essential characters of the first species, *Iphiteon panicea*, are established by Bowerbank from a specimen obtained at Porto Rico, and preserved in the Museum of the Jardin des Plantes, Paris. The diagnosis reads as follows:—"Sponge cyathiform, slightly pedicelled. Surface of rigid skeleton even. Oscula, pores and dermal membrane unknown. Skeleton symmetrically radial, radii short and stout, areas of the rete mostly six-sided spaces, within triangular; fibre cylindrical, incipiently spinous. Tension spicula simple, hexradiate, slender, abundantly spinous, radii terminally more or less clavate. Retentive spicula spinulo-pentafurcated hexradiate stellate, few in number. Gemmules simple, membranous, subspherical, irregularly disposed, very numerous."

The second species, *Iphiteon beatrix*, Bowerbank, resembles *Aphrocallistes beatrix*, Gray, and has already been referred to in detail under the genus *Aphrocallistes*.

The third species, *Iphiteon subglobosa*, Bowerbank, agrees with *Dactylocalyx subglobosa*, Gray. Bowerbank diagnoses this form⁴ as "a massive sponge, somewhat cyathiform, sessile; surface uneven. Oscula and pores unknown. Dermal membrane—retentive spicula spinulated biternate minute, very numerous. Skeleton symmetrical radial; areas confluent, somewhat irregular, mostly six-sided, spaces within triangular. Skeleton fibre at the external surface coarsely and irregularly tuberculated; disposition of the tubercles sublinear. Auxiliary fibres rectangulated hexradiate, abundantly spinous; radii spinulated. External defensive spicula fusiform acerate, very large and long, distal terminations occasionally incipiently spinous. Interstitial spicula rectangulated hexradiate, very slender, radii subclavate, basal ray very long. Spicula of the membranes retentive spicula spinulo-quadrifurcate and pentafurcate hexradiate stellate, numerous; margins of the spinulate terminations crenulate."

The fourth species, *Iphiteon ingalli*, Bowerbank, agrees, according to Bowerbank himself, with *Dactylocalyx pumicea*, Gray, which is said to be distinct from *Dactylocalyx pumiceus*, Stutchbury. Bowerbank gives the following diagnosis⁵:—"Sponge cup-shaped. Rigid skeleton; upper or exhalent surface with large intermarginal excurrent canals

¹ Valenciennes never really diagnosed a genus *Iphiteon*. The only foundation for this supposition is a preparation in the Museum of the Jardin des Plantes in Paris bearing a label as above. He cannot be referred to as the founder of the genus.

² *Proc. Zool. Soc Lond.*, 1869, pp. 323-357.

³ *Loc. cit.*, p. 324.

⁴ *Loc. cit.*, p. 329.

⁵ *Loc. cit.*, p. 321.