

so peculiar that it seems inexplicable why, if Pallas had this form before him, he failed to give a better definition of it. The mode of branching agrees with Milne-Edwards' generic characters, and the whole corallum is fused into a dense mass, 28 cm. high, 36 cm. wide, and 10 cm. thick. The stem is relatively slender, and gives rise, close to the base, to a large number of branches in all directions. All the main branches, after a certain course, grow up subvertically. They vary in thickness, and present dilations here and there without regularity. Each branch is beset with a number of short spirally arranged pinnules, which are curved slightly upwards, but have an insertion almost at right angles to the branch. There may be from three to five in one revolution of the axis, and about six or eight to a centimetre. These pinnules vary very much in length, many are slender, only slightly tapering, and from 1 to 1.5 cm. long; others which are longer bear secondary pinnules. These may be 5 cm. long, arched upwards, so that the apex takes a subvertical direction, and then bear secondary pinnules spirally arranged, and varying from 0.5 to 1.5 cm. or more in length; most are simple, but a few become again divided. The whole corallum is fused into a firm mass, not so much by a confluence of parts as by frequent adhesions between the pinnules of adjoining branches and branchlets. At almost every point of contact a fusion takes place. The spines are elongate, and somewhat related in form to those of some species of *Aphanipathes* (e.g., *Aphanipathes barbadensis*). A spiral arrangement is not well marked, but the spines are arranged in longitudinal rows, of which five may be seen from one aspect. The spines are about equal in length to the diameter of the axis in their neighbourhood, and are laterally compressed, ending in a blunt point formed by the lower margin taking a sharp curve upwards to join the upper margin. The members of a row are usually separated by an interval greater than the length of a spine (Pl. XI. fig. 22). There are a number of specimens in the Zoological Museum at Copenhagen which appear to belong to this species, but differ from M.-Edwards' type, in having a more slender corallum, the branchlets of which are irregularly placed, not in a distinct spiral. The largest specimen is 41 cm. long, 30 cm. broad, and 13 cm. thick. The stem near the base has a diameter of 3 mm. The whole outer, and particularly the upper, portion of the corallum is very slender; there is scarcely any difference between the thickness of the branches and branchlets. The spines are distinctly visible to the naked eye.

*Habitat.*—Indian Ocean (Pallas, &c.).

*Arachnopathes clathrata* (Pall.), M.-Edw.

*Antipathes clathrata*, Pallas, Elench. Zooph., p. 212.

*Arachnopathes clathrata*, Milne-Edwards, Coralliaires, t. i. p. 320.

“ *A. ramosissima intricata*, ramulis confusis ubique coalescentibus, junioribus setaceis. Fruticulus modo pedali major, rariusculus; modo vix semipedalis densiusque ramosus;