

teridæ, on the other hand, although some species occur in quite shallow water on reefs, range also to great depths, some species having been dredged by the "Challenger" from 1,500 fathoms. Specimens of six genera of *Stylasteridæ* were fished up at one haul of the trawl, from 600 fathoms, off the mouth of the Rio de la Plata, and it was from these specimens that the details of the structure of the family were made out, and the *Stylasteridæ* determined to be Hydrozoa.

I have given an account of the *Stylasteridæ* in this place, because any description of them must necessarily follow that of the *Milleporidæ*.* In having in each colony, polyps of several kinds, and of separate functions, with a regular system of division of labour, the *Hydrocorallinæ* resemble the *Siphonophora* Hydroids which form similar colonies, which are free-swimming at the ocean surface, instead of fixed to the bottom like the corals.

To return to Tahiti:—The ground just above the shore near Papeete is everywhere burrowed by large Land Crabs. The Crabs are difficult to catch; never, in the daytime at least, going far from their holes, but watching a passer-by from near the mouths of their retreats, and bolting in if suspicious of danger, like rabbits. An old marine, whose name was Leary, who acted as my constant assistant in collecting on shore, invented a plan by which he caught some of the largest and oldest of the crabs. He tied a bit of meat on the end of a string, fastened to a fishing-rod, and by dragging the meat slowly enticed the Crabs from their holes, and then made a dash forward and put his foot in the hole, and so caught them. The largest Crabs were far more difficult to catch than the younger ones.

It is curious how little animals seem to be frightened by a long wand like a fishing-rod. I have seen Mr. Thwaites in Ceylon put a noose of Palm fibre, fastened at the tip of a rod of this kind, over the heads of numbers of Lizards, and carry them off thus sniggled to put them into spirit for Dr. Günther. The Lizards sat quite quietly to receive the noose, though if we had moved a foot nearer to them they would have run off at once. Snakes and Lizards are nearly all caught in this manner in the Peradeniya Gardens.

We got up anchor and steamed out of Papeete Harbour to the time of the Tahitian National Air, a quick and lively jig

* For a detailed account of the structure of the *Stylasteridæ*, see H. N. Moseley, "Preliminary Note on the Structure of the *Stylasteridæ*." Proc. Roy. Soc., No. 172, 1876, p. 93. Also, "On the Structure of the *Stylasteridæ*, a Family of Hydroid Stony Corals." The Croonian Lecture. Phil. Trans. Roy. Soc. 1878.