

INCERTÆ SEDIS.

Corallistes (?) *borealis*, Carter.

Corallistes borealis, Carter, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 4, vol. xii. pp. 439, 442, 443, 1873.

Sponge (?).—(Overgrown by other sponges.)

Spicules.—Desmas like those of *Azorica pfeifferæ*. Dichotriænes and discotriænes are said to occur in the midst of the skeleton.

Habitat.—Færøe Islands.

Remarks.—The presence of dichotriænes and discotriænes in the interior of the desmose skeleton is so unique that one is led to suspect some source of error; discotriænes are essentially ectosomal spicules, and when they are found in the middle of a sponge, they may be looked upon as foreign inclusions.

Arabescula parasitica, Carter.

Arabescula parasitica, Carter, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 4, vol. xii. p. 464, pl. xvii. figs. 7-9, 1873.

„ „ Zittel, Abhandl. d. k. baier. Akad. d. Wiss., Bd. i. pp. 103, 120, pl. i. fig. 11, 1878.

Corallistes parasitica, Ridley, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. xiv. p. 183, 1884.

Sponge.—Thin, incrusting.

Spicules.—Megasclere. *Desma*, epirabd, curved, branched, breaking up into filagree, depressed in a plane parallel to the surface, smooth externally, with cylindrical tubercles on the inner face.

Habitat.—West of the English Channel, growing over *Aphrocallistes bocagei*. Seychelles, growing over *Farrea occa*.

Remarks.—In the specimen which Mr. Carter kindly presented to me, the desmas are to be seen as a single layer closely incrusting part of the deciduous skeleton of *Aphrocallistes bocagei*, they much resemble the ectosomal desmas of *Siphonidium*, but probably owe their form to their mode of growth and position, for in the case of attached Lithistids the desmas immediately in contact with the surface of attachment are frequently flattened in conformity with it, and then in some cases much resemble the desmas of *Arabescula*. As none but the incrusting desmas have been observed in this sponge, and nothing is known as to the presence or absence of microscleres, its position is eminently doubtful. I do not think it is referable to *Corallistes* as Ridley conceives, but more probably to some genus of the Azoricidæ, of which possibly it represents only the layer of desmas serving for attachment.