

In fact the articular ridge and not the edges of the muscle-plates forms the immediate boundary of the central cavity; and the fossa for the dorsal ligament is still more reduced than in *Holopus*, where it is represented by a median pit that is scarcely to be traced at all in *Cyathidium*. The presence of these articular faces seems to have escaped the notice of de Loriol, which is doubtless due to his not having been able to examine sufficiently good specimens. For he describes the calyx of *Cyathidium*¹ as composed "d'une pièce centro-dorsale cupuliforme portant, sur son bord supérieur, cinq facettes syzygales, sur lesquels reposaient, sans doute, des pièces radiales dont le nombre est inconnu." These supposed syzygial facets are, however, the articular faces of first radials, which are by no means so unknown as de Loriol supposes, though their inferior boundary is still uncertain.

The inner face of each side of the more or less pentagonal cup formed by these radials is marked by a median furrow corresponding to the ventral radial furrow of other Crinoids (Pl. X. figs. 1, 4, *vsf*; Pl. XX. fig. 8), and immediately external to its upper end is the opening of the central canal. These features indicate that in Steenstrup's *Cyathidium* the sides of the pentagonal cup correspond to the radials, just as they do in *Holopus* (Pl. V. figs. 1, 2, 4). To this same genus *Cyathidium*, Schlüter has doubtfully referred a minute Crinoidal calyx discovered by him in the Eocene of Monte Spilecco near Venice.² It only reaches 9 mm. in height, but has the same general form as the cup of the recent *Holopus*, being attached by a spreading base, between which and the cup proper there is a more or less well marked constriction. This does not appear to be generally the case in the Faxoe specimens. In one or two cases there seem to be traces of basiradial and interradian sutures, and the position of the former, if real, would indicate that the basals are relatively much higher than they can possibly be in *Holopus*.

The great peculiarity of *Cyathidium spileccense*, however, lies in the relative position of the radials in the pentagonal cup. Their articular surfaces correspond with the angles of the pentagon, and not with its sides, as is the case both in *Holopus* and in Steenstrup's *Cyathidium*, while the middle of each side is raised into a slight ridge which separates the articular facets of two contiguous radials. The result of this is that the five openings of the radial canals are situated at the angles of the calyx. They occupy about the middle of the rim, the outer edge of which is slightly truncated, and shows traces of a fossa for an elastic ligament. The peculiar semilunar shape of these articular facets is considered by Zittel as one of the generic characters of *Cyathidium*. But it certainly does not appear in any of the Faxoe specimens which were lent to Sir Wyville Thomson by Prof. Lovén. We know too little about both of these species to make them types of different genera; and in default of further information it appears undesirable to unite them with *Holopus*. Both forms resemble and differ from it in various points, and are

¹ Paléont. Franç., *loc. cit.*, p. 187.

² Astylide Crinoiden, *loc. cit.*, pp. 50-54, Taf. iii. figs. 11-15.