

overlapping one another like tiles on a roof; the last row projects upon the oral region; they measure, length by breadth—0·37–0·33; 0·3–0·16; 0·5–0·4; 0·3–0·2 mm.

The colleret, which sinks within the margin of the calyx, consists of peripherally placed spiny spicules. The opercular covering is formed of two or three converging spindles, which are placed on the bases of the tentacles, and leave large interspaces, so that the oral region is imperfectly closed in. The opercular spicules measure 0·37 to 0·03 mm. The axis is transparent, horny, slightly flexible, of a light-brown colour. The cœnenchyma and the polyps when dried are white.

*Habitat.*—St. Paul's Rocks, Atlantic; depth, 80 fathoms.

#### Genus 9. *Acamptogorgia*, n. gen.

Stem upright, branched, with a branched horny axis. Polyps short, at right angles to the stem; cœnenchyma very rough. The spicules both in the cœnenchyma and polyps are partly curved spindles, with irregularly branched spines; partly peculiar spicules with foliaceous expansions arising from a two- or three-rayed base. There is a colleret of curved spiny spindles. The bases of the tentacles are armed with a few long spiny spicules, which form a low cone-shaped operculum. The species have a general resemblance to those of *Villogorgia*; they form slender upright stems, branched in one plane, with relatively large polyps on the branches, arranged either in alternating series or in short spirals. The polyps have blunt, conical, warty calyces, within whose margin the collerets appear sunken. The tentacles in repose are quite infolded; their basal portions contain two or three converging spiny spicules, which form quasi-operculi over the oral regions. The spicules of the cœnenchyma are curved and bent spindles with jagged and frequently branched spines, which are more strongly developed on the convex sides than on the concave. The polyp spicules are remarkable: from the spindle-like bases one or two foliar expansions arise; in the least complex cases, and chiefly at the base of the polyps, these arise thus—a somewhat bent spindle is furnished with a dentate foliar expansion, from the margin of its convex side, the long axis of which stands a little obliquely to the long axis of the spindle. In most cases the spicule has become triradiate by the shooting out of several projections from about its middle. From the place where these rays centre one or two dentate foliar expansions arise, these latter stand at an acute angle to one another, and their long axes always fall into the angle between two of the rays. These spicules are so placed on the wall of the polyp body that the stellate rays are always inserted into it, while the foliar expansions project, scale-like, over the surface. The colleret consists of bent spindles, spiny, and upon which the opercular spicules abut. Each of the eight rays of the opercular covering consists of but three, fairly broad and somewhat flattened spicules,

<sup>1</sup> ἀκαμπτος, rigid.