

while those of the terminal twigs are scarcely 0.5 mm.; when deprived of cœnenchyma they appear pink and furrowed. The basal nodes are from 2 to 1.5 mm. in width.

The polyps are mostly bilaterally placed, about 1 mm. apart; they are retractile, within but slightly elevated verrucæ of almost 1 mm. in diameter; on one fragment a larger polyp occurs which measures 1.5 mm. in diameter, and 1 mm. in height above the cœnenchyma. The polyps are well-furnished with spicules, there being a basal coronet of bent and curved spiny spicules and the dorsal portion of each tentacle is covered with spiny spindles of a yellow colour.

The cœnenchyma is thin and shows through it the furrowings of the internodes. The outer layer of red warty and spiny spindles gives it a roughened appearance when magnified; underneath this comes a layer of colourless spindles and stellate spicules. Towards the tips of the terminal branches there is a mixture of yellow, red, and white spicules which is very striking.

The general colour of the colony seems to vary from a deep salmon colour to a deep red; the polyps are yellow.

The spicules measure:—those in the cœnenchyma, the warty one-sided spindles 0.22–0.06; 0.18–0.04 mm.; the thick warty slightly curved spindles 0.2–0.1; 0.22–0.08 mm. In the inner layer the stellate forms measure 0.12–0.04 mm., and the short spindles with eight projecting knobs measure 0.08–0.04; 0.08–0.02; 0.06–0.02 mm. The curved spiny spindles of the polyps measure 0.4–0.04; 0.32–0.03; 0.24–0.025; 0.38–0.02 mm.; the long measurements of these are taken across from tip to tip of the curve. The spiny spindles with blunt and sharp ends measure 0.3–0.04; 0.24–0.04; 0.22–0.04 mm.

Habitat.—Amboina; depth, 15 to 20 fathoms.

The last four species would be placed by some in *Acabaria*.

Genus *Parisis*, Verrill.

Parisis, Verrill, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., 1865, p. 37.

„ Gray, Cat. Lithophytes, p. 13.

Trinella, Gray, Cat. Lithophytes, p. 12.

Parisis, Ridley, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., August 1882, p. 130.

Verrill first established this genus for a form from the Sulu Sea, taken during the United States Exploring Expedition. It was diagnosed as follows—“Corallum irregularly branching, nearly in a plane. The axis consists of alternately calcareous and suberous segments, of uniform thickness, traversed by numerous narrow sulcations. The branches originate from the calcareous segments. Cœnenchyma persistent, rather thin, somewhat membranous, with a rough surface. Cells prominent, arranged irregularly on all sides of the branchlets, but often absent on the median surfaces of the larger branches.” Dr. Gray contents himself with copying Verrill's description but