

Family IV. CORALLIIDÆ.

Corallidæ, Gray, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1857, p. 286.

Corallinæ, Milne-Edwards, Hist. Nat. des Coralliaires, t. i. p. 201.

Coralliidæ, Ridley, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1882, p. 221.

Following Ridley we include the two genera *Corallium*, Lamk., and *Pleurocorallium*, Gray, in this family. We refer to his memoir (*loc. cit.*) for a detailed account of the various species.

Genus *Corallium*, Lamarck.

Madrepora (pars), Linneus, Syst. Naturæ, ed. x. p. 797, 1757.

Isis (pars), Linneus, Syst. Naturæ, ed. xii. p. 1288.

Corallium, Lamarck, Mém. Mus. Hist. Nat., t. i. p. 407, 1815.

„ Lamouroux, Hist. des Polypes flox., p. 443, 1816.

Corallium rubrum, Lamarck.

Madrepora rubra, Linn., Syst. Nat., ed. x. p. 797, 1757.

Isis nobilis, Linn., Syst. Nat., ed. xii. p. 1288.

Corallium rubrum, Lamarck, Mém. Mus. Hist. Nat., t. i. p. 407, 1815.

„ *nobile* (Pallas), Ridley, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1882, p. 221.

Although no specimens of the precious Coral of commerce were found among the specimens submitted to us; yet we read in the Narrative of the Cruise,¹ that “Red, or precious Coral occurs at St. Iago and also at St. Vincent, the fishery being carried on by Italians, &c. . . . Professor Thomson and Mr. Murray dredged over the ground in the steam pinnace during the whole of the 8th August and were very successful. The Coral occurs in from 80 to 120 fathoms, and is dragged for by rough nets and swabs; a duty of a dollar per kilogramme is paid to the Government.”

Studer also records obtaining specimens of Red Coral from the fishermen at Porto Praya, which he determined to belong to this species.

Genus *Pleurocorallium*, Gray, *emend.* Ridley.

Pleurocorallium, Gray, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1867, p. 126; Cat. Lithophytes, &c., p. 23.

Pleurocorallium, Gray (*emend.*), Ridley, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1882, p. 231.

Colony with stem and branches, these latter with lateral pinnæ. The axis oval on transverse section, white or partly red and white. The cœnenchyma with spicules of two kinds—double clubs and many-rayed double stars. Polyps with shallow verrucæ, those of the stem and main branches confined to the anterior surfaces.

¹ Narr. Chall. Exp., vol. i. p. 191.