

The large specimen in the Jardin des Plantes exhibits a simple straight upright main stem, which is much broadened below. It measures 150 mm. in height, and in diameter 5 mm. On the four sides it gives off, at tolerably wide intervals, thin cylindrical axial polyps of the second order. These either bear small lateral twigs, especially about the middle, or are directly beset with polyps. The latter arise at obtuse or at right angles.

The largest of the specimens, collected by Dr. C. Keller near Nossi Be, is represented in Pl. XLIII. fig. 1, from a drawing kindly placed at our disposal by Dr. Keller. It exhibits a somewhat divergent habit.

The axial polyp of the first order attains a height of 170 mm., and measures 6 mm. in diameter near the base; at a height of 22 mm. it gives off a strong branch, which arises at an angle of 45°, and is beset with polyp-bearing axial polyps of the second order. From that point the stem-polyp is continued upwards in a somewhat spiral course, and gives off its polyp-bearing twigs high above the origin of the first branch. The twigs are strongest and longest about the middle; above and below they are less strongly developed, while just under the apex isolated polyps occur. Other specimens, measuring 130 mm. in height and 4 mm. in thickness above the base, exhibit only one stem with branches disposed on either side. At the middle height these measure about 47 mm. in length and 15 mm. in thickness, and are directly beset with polyps.

In all the specimens the branches show a tendency to broaden out especially in one plane, but an accurate examination of their origin shows that they arise, like the polyps, in spirals round the stem.

According to Dr. Keller the colonies attain a height of 200 mm.

Axial stem-polyp of the first order. The axial stem-polyp exhibits at its upper end the crown of tentacles. This surrounds the oral disc, and in all the specimens the tentacles lie folded together over the invaginated oral disc. Each tentacle is looped or curved, with its apex inwards. The mouth is a longitudinal cleft, surrounded by broad ectodermic projections; it measures 0·21 mm. in length.

The tentacles seem to be short and broad, and have eight short side pinnæ.

The mouth leads into the œsophageal cavity, which seems on cross section to be oval, and attains a length of 1·7 mm. No siphonoglyphe was found,¹ but the tube is covered with a layer of elongated cylindrical cells. After a course of 1 mm. the tube suddenly contracts into a narrow cylindrical sack with thick walls, which leave only a narrow opening. The latter opens into the gastral cavity. This is lined in its œsophageal region by an endoderm of elongated cylindrical cells, which become less conspicuous inferiorly, and more and more flattened. The mesenteric folds exhibit a very slightly developed musculature, indeed muscular fibres are scarcely distinguishable. Under the œsophageal tube they soon decrease in breadth and rapidly disappear below; only the

¹ A siphonoglyphe was found by Hickson, *loc. cit.*, p. 695, pl. 50, fig. 3.