Genus 38. *Athoralia*,[1] Haeckel, 1888.

Athoralia, Hkl., System der Siphonophoren, p. 39.

Definition.—Athoridæ without a nectosac at the distal end of the bracts. Tentilla with an involucre around the spiral cnidoband. Corms dicœcious.

The genus *Athoralia* differs from the preceding similar *Athoria* in three characters. The rudimentary nectosac, which occupies the distal end of the bracts in the latter, is wanting in the former; the corms are dicœcious; and the cnidoband of the tentilla is not naked, but enveloped by an involucrum. *Athoralia*, therefore, has a relation to *Athoria* similar to that which *Athorybia* exhibits to *Rhodophysa*. A single species only, *Athoralia coronula*, was observed by me, in December 1881, during my residence in Ceylon. It was very similar to a small young *Athorybia*, but possessed a single siphon only, with a single tentacle. Three specimens of it were captured, one male and two females. The former possessed a single small gonodendron, composed of about a dozen club-shaped spermaria, besides a number of young buds. Each of the two females had also only a single gonodendron, composed of numerous clustered, very small gynophores, each containing a single ovum. *Athoralia coronula* is therefore one of the rare dicœcious Physonectæ, like *Apolemia*.

Family XII. Apolemidæ, Huxley, 1859.

Apolemidæ, Huxley, Oceanic Hydrozoa, pp. 70, 127.

Definition.—Physonectæ polygastricæ, with a long tubular stem of the siphosome, bearing numerous siphons, palpons, and bracts, each siphon provided with a simple unbranched tentacle. Nectosome biserial, with two opposite nectophores or two alternate series of opposite nectophores. Pneumatophore without radial pouches.

The family Apolemidæ, founded by Huxley upon the single genus *Apolemia*, comprises those Physonectæ which possess a biserial nectosome and a long tubular stem of the siphosome, similar to the Agalmidæ. They differ, however, from these latter in two important points. The pneumatophore is a simple glandular invagination of the top of the trunk, whilst in the Agalmidæ the pericystic cavity is divided by vertical septa into radial pouches. Further, the tentacles in the former are simple, not branched filaments, whilst in the latter they bear a series of lateral branches or tentilla, each provided with a cnidobattery.

The first Siphonophore belonging to this family was observed in the North Atlantic by Lesueur, who in 1813 executed a large and excellent picture of it, drawn and engraved by himself from life. He called it *Stephanomia uviformis* (not *uvaria*). Eschscholtz observed the same animal in the North Atlantic, and recognising it in the

[1] *Athoralia*, derived from *Athoria*.