

*Stichopathes? occidentalis* (Gray) (Pl. XII. figs. 7, 8).

*Cirrhopathes setacea*, var. *occidentalis*, Gray, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 3, vol. vi. p. 311.

Gray's type of this form is 2.74 m. long, very slender and tapering; the base is 2 mm. in diameter, and the apex 0.2 mm. The whole stem is like a slender whip lash, and shows no signs of spiral curvature. Possibly the polyps are on one side of the axis only, but I could not make sure of this as the specimen is dry and almost entirely void of polyps. It differs from *Stichopathes desbonni* (D. & M.), from the same area, in having the spines arranged in close spirals and longitudinally in linear series, instead of in verticils, and from *Stichopathes pourtalesi*, in having the axis straight instead of spirally twisted, and also in the arrangement of the spines, which seems most nearly allied to that of *Stichopathes echinulata*.

The spines are short and conical, but somewhat compressed. In more slender portions of the specimen they are arranged in dextrorse spirals which are about twice the length of a spine apart. Nearer the base the spiral arrangement is lost, and the spines are thicker and stand out horizontally.

*Habitat*.—Off Turk's Island, West Indies (Todd), Brit. Mus.

