

BRYOZOA IN THE PAPERS AND COL-
LECTIONS OF DR. J. E. GUNNERUS

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I have elsewhere¹ given an account of the importance of Dr. J. E. GUNNERUS as a naturalist, especially as a zoologist. Thus I pointed out that his most important zoological works were his descriptions of Norwegian corals and sharks. I will now give some additional notes on his mention of Bryozoa, which in his time were reckoned among the corals. — Gunnerus sometimes sent animals and plants to CARL V. LINNÉ, who expressed his opinion about the objects. In a letter to Gunnerus (Upsala, ²⁹/₃ 1767) Linné wrote: «*Flustra pilosa* är wissierligen den öfwersände ramulus» [The branch sent is certainly *Flustra pilosa*].

I take it for granted that the species mentioned by Linné is not a *Flustra* in the modern sense. No doubt, *Flustra pilosa* = *Electra pilosa* LIN. This species commonly occurs on *Laminaria* and other algæ, and the colonies are sometimes arising in branches.

In 1768 Gunnerus described some corals,² in the 4th volume of «Det kgl. norske Videnskabers Selskabs Skrifter». As nr. 3 (l. c. p. 59—62, tab. I, fig. 6) he mentions a species, *Millepora tarandicornis*, which was identified with a form described by Dr. E. PONTOPPIDAN³ in the following manner: «En liden artig Coral med flade Grene, forestillende accurat Takkerne paa en Hjortes eller rettere et Rensdyrs Hoved.» [A small peculiar coral with flat branches representing the antlers on the head of a red-deer or rather of a reindeer]. Gunnerus also called attention to the fact, that the same species was described by H. STRØM.⁴ From the cited paper by Gunnerus it is seen (l. c. p. 62) that samples of this species were sent to Linné, who declared that he called it *Cellepora pumicosa* and at the same time made known that he separa-

¹ Biskop Gunnerus som naturforsker. Johan Ernst Gunnerus 1718 — 26. februar — 1918. Mindeblade utgit av D. kgl. n. vid. selsk. Trondhjem, 1918.

² Dr. HJ. BROCH Coelenterates in the papers of J. E. GUNNERUS. D. kgl. n. vid. selsk. skr. 1917, nr. 4. Trondhjem, 1918.

³ Norges naturlige Historie, I, p. 258, nr. 5 and 6, tab. 14, figs. B, C. Kjøbenhavn, 1752.

⁴ Søndmørs Beskrivelse, I, p. 142, litt. γ Soroe, 1762.

ted *Cellepora* as a new genus from *Millepora*. From the figures in the papers of Pontoppidan and Gunnerus I have concluded that *Millepora tarandicornis* GUNN. = *Cellepora pumicosa* LIN. is not a *Cellepora* in the modern sense. This conclusion I now find verified, as in the collections of Gunnerus there is a specimen labelled *Cellepora pumicosa* which is identical with *Porella compressa* SOWERBY. In Gunnerus' paper on Norwegian corals there is also mentioned a similar specimen with round branches (l. c. p. 60). This is drawn as tab. I, fig. 7. The author supposed this to be a juvenile form of his *tarandicornis*, but in all probability it is *Porella laevis* FLEMING.

In Gunnerus' collections there is a veritable *Cellepora*, which is labelled *C. ramulosa* LIN. I have examined the specimen, and found it to be *Cellepora tuberosa* D'ORBIGNY, which has in later times been separated from *C. ramulosa*. As nr. 6 Gunnerus described a species which he called *Millepora causia*.¹ It shows some likeness to *Lichenopora hispida* FLEMING but in stead of the bordering lamina in *L. hispida* there are in *M. causia* small horizontal tubes drawn in the margin of the zoarium. The basal wall of the colony, moreover (l. c. pl. IV, fig. 10) does not agree with the basis of *L. hispida*. Thus the identity is doubtful. In the collections from Gunnerus' time there are specimens of another form of cyclostomatous Bryozoa, viz *Hornera lichenoides* LIN. These are neither labelled nor mentioned in the papers of the learned bishop, although the species was described and figured by Dr. E. PONTOPPIDAN.² The last mentioned author had also, in the cited work, given a description with figure of a *Retepora*.³ This species was identified by Gunnerus⁴ with *Retepora (Millepora) cellulosa* LIN., which is quite correct. Here, however, it should be remarked, that a species, *Retepora beaniana* KING, has been separated from *R. cellulosa* and the forms of Pontoppidan and Gunnerus are identical with *R. beaniana*. This I conclude from the fact, that in Gunnerus' collections there is a specimen labelled *Millepora cellulosa*, which is just the same as *R. beaniana*. In this species Gunnerus observed the zooecial apertures, which he believed to communicate with the dwellings of the animals. —

Dr. J. E. Gunnerus had a private collection of naturalia. This was bought in the year after his death by a rich merchant, H. MEINCKE, who presented the collection to the scientific society of

¹ D. kgl. n. vid. selsk. skr., vol. 4 (1768), p. 68, tab. IV, figs. 9—11.

² Norges naturlige Historie, I, p. 258, nr. 7 and 8, tab. 14, figs. D, E. Kjøbenhavn, 1752.

³ L. c. p. 258, nr. 9, tab. 14, fig. F.

⁴ D. kgl. n. vid. selsk. skr., vol. 4 (1768), p. 77, pl. 3, fig. 1, litt. d, e, f, g and fig. 3.

Trondhjem. The printed catalogue¹ of this collection still exists, and as nr. 91 is noted: «En Samling af *Madreporis*, *Flustris*, *Tubulariis*, *Corallinis*.» In the catalogue of M. L. WITTRUP² (1779) we also find (p. 88) some species of *Millepora* and *Cellepora*.

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- ¹ Fortegnelse over Hr. Doct. Johan Ernst Gunneri Natural-Samling, som ved offentlig Auction bliver bortsolgt i Septembri 1774 udi hans Gaard i Trondhjem. Trondhjem, 1774.
 - ² Catalogus Librorum atqve Rerum naturalium. Niderosiaë, 1779.
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