



BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),

CROMWELL ROAD,

LONDON: S.W.

Sept 10. 1903.

Dear Prof Spencer,

Your letter of June  
30<sup>th</sup> duly reached me,  
and also I have received  
the package addressed  
to Prof Lankester. The  
delay in acknowledging  
the receipt of these was  
due to the absence, first  
of Lankester, and later,  
of myself in vacation.

I have compared the  
specimen of *Hydractinia*  
*arborescens* with Carter's  
figure (Ann Mag. N. H. 1878  
(57) I. p 298 pl. XVIII figs 1-4)  
and there can be no doubt  
as to its being the type.  
I am very pleased to  
be able to erase "Type  
specimen missing" from  
my MS. Cat. list of  
Hydroids.  
As for the specimen of

<sup>41</sup>  
*H. Calceura*, which you  
are generous enough to  
send here, it is not  
the actual 'type' which  
inhabits a *Murex*, whereas  
your specimen is in a  
"Ficus";

It is really very good  
of you to take all this  
trouble to restore the  
type of *H. arborescens*.  
In such matters to  
be honest is to be one  
man in ten thousand.

Yours very sincerely  
F. Kirkpatrick.