

one plane, of 200 mm. in height; the main axis has a thickness at its base of 2 mm., but the diameter of the terminal branches is nearly 4 mm. A principal stem can be distinguished, from which branches are given off on both sides; some of these attain the thickness of the principal stem; they are given off both at right and obtuse angles, soon bending upwards, and then running parallel to the chief stem. The branches sometimes bear lateral twigs, which in their turn give rise to smaller offsets, these are short and stand perpendicularly. In single branches a uniting or anastomosing takes place by obliquely uniting branches. The cœnenchyma which covers the horny, flexible axis, is thick, and towards the apices of the branches it becomes more so, so that the terminations of these appear quite club-shaped. The polyps, both on the stem and branches, are crowded all round the periphery, the polyps being at right angles to the stem; they are cylindrical, with upright truncated calyces. The opercular region does not project. The polyps measure 0.8 to 1 mm. in diameter. The spicules of the cœnenchyma are either spindles, with tubercles which are often branched, occasionally thickened at one end, or at both ends, and often also feebly curved, or some form lateral prominences, which are branched, with spiny tubercles. The spicules of the polyp calyx are very characteristic. These are pointed spindles, with expanded basal portions, which give rise to from two to six downwardly directed lobes, provided with simple or complex spines; the basal portions of these lie tightly packed over one another, like tubes, while the apices project and are often very conspicuous around the margins of the polyps. The opercular coverings are composed of thin, fusiform spicules, placed on the basal portion of each tentacle; three or four will be found converging towards the apex of each tentacle. While the spicules figured by Ridley fairly well represent those found in the Challenger specimen, yet it may be noticed that many have been observed by us with much more delicate and ornamented branches of the singular basal portions than are figured on pl. xxxviii. of Ridley's paper. The colour of our specimen is a dark red.

Habitat.—Station 203, off Panay, Philippines; depth, 20 fathoms; bottom, mud.

Genus 8. *Placogorgia*, n. gen.

Stem upright, branched in one plane, with a horny, flexible axis and a thick cœnenchyma, on which the polyps are arranged in narrow spirals. The polyps are short, cylindrical, and flattened on the oral aspect. The upper portions of the polyps, with the greater portion of the tentacles, can be quite withdrawn, being then covered over by the basal portions of the tentacles, which with their spicules form an operculum. The spicules of the cœnenchyma are warty spindles, often bent on their long axis. The polyp spicules are broad, warty "Stachelplatten," which lie over one another like scales; often these are replaced by irregular discs, whose surface is covered with papillæ and