

At the base of tentacles, large spicules occur which converge outwards. They have a broad expanded base and a pointed end, and are beset with sharp spines. They measure up to 0·72 mm. in length by 0·058 mm. in thickness, and form, occurring as they do in several rows one behind the other, a quasi-operculum 2 mm. in height.

The colour of the colony as preserved in spirit is yellowish-white.

*Habitat.*—Station 56, lat. 32° 8' 45" N., long. 64° 59' 35" W ; depth, 1075 fathoms.

*Symphodium glomeratum*, n. sp. (Pl. XLIII. figs. 13, 14).

A thin basal membrane extends over Gorgonoid axes. From this the polyp calyces arise; these are rarely separate, being usually in close groups. This is especially the case where the membrane grows out beyond the substratum, and thickens considerably to form thick cushions, which project to a height of 12 mm. and have a breadth of 6 to 7 mm. From these the polyp calyces arise to varying heights. The colonies then exhibit very much the appearance of a young Alcyonium stock.

The polyps have their lower portion sunk into the cœnenchyma, and present projecting calyces, about 1 mm. each in height and 1·5 mm. in diameter. Into the latter the anterior portion of the polyp may be completely retracted, while the calyx wall closing over forms an incomplete operculum. Eight strong ridges extend up along the calyx wall. When the polyp is retracted, the calyx portion has the appearance of a small wart, upon the top of which the bases of the folded and spicular tentacles may be seen protruding.

The mesoderm of the calyces and of the cœnenchyma is thickly beset with rough spicules. One can distinguish broad curved spindles, beset with spinose warts projecting straight outwards. These spicules have the following length and breadth respectively—0·2 to 0·05, 0·25 to 0·025, 0·16 to 0·067 mm. Besides these club-shaped forms occur others, broadened out at one end, and beset with jagged and spinose processes, as well as with spiny warts. The length and breadth of these vary respectively as follows:—0·2 to 0·05, 0·2 to 0·052, 0·083 to 0·04 mm. Furthermore, there are curved flat bodies, which may be described as crescent-shaped clubs, which are flattened out, and beset with spines and thorny processes. Their dimensions in length and breadth are 0·25 to 0·058, or 0·16 to 0·06 mm. Twin and four-rayed forms likewise occur.

Under the tentacles, the spindles are disposed in a ring so as to form a broad collaret. Short spiny spindles, converging towards the centre, are disposed in several rows at the bases of the tentacles, and these form a sort of operculum. These spindles are covered with straight warts, and are themselves sometimes straight, sometimes curved. In the collaret they measure 0·43 mm. in length to 0·033 mm. in breadth. In the tentacles their length and breadth vary as follows:—0·2 to 0·05, and 0·25 to 0·025 mm.