

viscous substance, probably secreted by some other animal, and this in drying may have produced the appearance referred to.

The portion of the specimen figured is 80 cm. long, and bears a strong short basal framework to which several large fan-like fronds have been attached.

*Habitat.*—Station 308; January 5, 1876; lat. 50° 8' 30" S., long. 74° 41' 0" W.; Strait of Magellan; depth, 175 fathoms; bottom, blue mud.

*Antipathella reticulata*, (Esper) non Gray (Pl. XII. fig. 3).

*Antipathes reticulata*, Esper, Pflanzenth. Fortsetz., pt. i. p. 183, pl. Antip. 11; Pourtalès, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., 1880, pl. iii. fig. 22.

*Rhipidipathes reticulata*, Milne-Edwards, Coralliaires, vol. i. p. 321.

“A. explanata ramis inordinato adscendentibus, ramulis clathratis, scaberrimis” (Esper, *loc cit.*).

The type in the Erlangen University Museum is not a complete specimen, but Esper thinks it may have been about 30 cm. in diameter. The whole surface is flattened, and the branches, which are slender and placed irregularly, become fused together into an open lattice work. All the branches are subalternately pinnate bearing straight or somewhat arched pinnules, the smaller ones coming off nearly at right angles, the larger ones often at an acute angle. On the apical and smaller branches the pinnules are usually simple and about 6 to 12 mm. long and comparatively regular in position, about eight to a centimetre. Some of the longer ones bear one or more very short secondary pinnules coming off at right angles and usually on one side only.

In an older portion of the colony the pinnules become 2.5 to 4 cm. long and much stronger, bearing secondary pinnules at right angles and often on both sides, similar in all respects to those in the upper portion of the specimen, but often longer (2 to 6 mm.).

The whole of the pinnules, both primary and secondary, form a lacework between the branches, and anastomoses are frequent in all parts of the colony. Esper describes the spines as close-set, obtuse, and stiff, sometimes club-shaped, and sometimes pointed. Judging from his figures they are very strong and large for such a delicate species. This species does not appear to have been described by subsequent investigators. Lamarck, Lamouroux, and Dana repeat Esper's definition. If Esper's plate xi. is to be relied on, the species is certainly unlike any with which I am acquainted. The specimen which Gray (Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1857) refers to this species is really widely different and more closely allied to *Antipathella gracilis* (Gray). It has none of the short stiff secondary pinnules so characteristic of this form, and also differs considerably in the size and arrangement of the spines.

There are two specimens in the Copenhagen University Museum which appear to be