

Nephtys verrilli, n. sp. (Pl. XXVI. figs. 6, 7; Pl. XXXIIA. fig. 8).

Habitat.—Dredged at Station 167A (Queen Charlotte Sound), June 27, 1874; lat. 41° 4' S., long. 174° 19' E.; depth, 10 fathoms; surface temperature, 51°·5; sea-bottom, mud.

A comparatively small species, the examples measuring about 14 mm. in length, and having a diameter of 2·5 mm.

The head (Pl. XXVI. fig. 6) is considerably elongated from before backward, and has near the posterior border a pair of small black eyes. The tentacula and subtentacula are proportionally large. In extrusion the proboscis (fig. 7) presents twenty-two rows of papillæ, which diminish from the distal region to the base. There are eleven distal papillæ, the median dorsal being single, while the median ventral is laterally bifid instead of radially, as in the others.

The foot (Pl. XXXIIA. fig. 8) bears superiorly a moderate lamella, which has a greater horizontal than a vertical diameter. It is less erect than in *Nephtys dibranchis*, Grube, and its external (or inferior) curve is longer. The cirrus at the base of the branchia has a larger basal and a more slender distal region than in the latter. The branchia has a basal protuberance externally, is proportionally large, and coiled inward. The ventral lobe has superiorly a small branchia, which is often curved inward. A bluntly conical lamella occupies the space between the latter and the ventral cirrus, and the arrangement thus differs from that in *Nephtys dibranchis*. The ventral cirrus is expanded inferiorly and tapered distally. The superior and inferior bristles are long and finely tapered, and they likewise have a well-marked curve. In the inferior series there are many shorter and less attenuate forms with bold curves. The short barred bristles show no distinctive features.

Though thus widely differing in habitat, this species closely approaches *Nephtys dibranchis* from the Arafura Sea.

In transverse section the nerve-cords are found to be enveloped even more closely than in *Nephtys dibranchis*, Grube, and they appear to be proportionally smaller. The cuticle is comparatively thick, but the hypoderm is slightly developed. No neural canal is visible. The ventral longitudinal muscles are bilobed in section, each side forming an ovoid mass of muscle. The proboscis and other parts follow the typical structure.

This form somewhat approaches the *Nephtys atlantica* of Hansen¹ from the North Atlantic, but it is readily distinguished both from this and the new species (*Nephtys minuta*) described by Théel² from the Kara Sea, by the presence of the inferior branchia.

¹ Den norske Nordhavs-Exped., p. 31, pl. iv. figs. 1, 2.

² Annél. des mers Nouvelle-Zemble, p. 28.