

The cœnenchyma and body spicules form a deep layer of long spindles, armed with pointed spines, 0·5 mm. long by 0·03 mm. in diameter, or 0·23 mm. by 0·12 mm. There are also broad flat spicules with simple or branched prominences, which often lie in different planes; and occasionally some spicules similar in appearance to the "Stachelplatten" met with in *Paramuricea*. The apices of these often project from the cœnenchyma and give it a roughened spiny appearance. These spicules measure 0·26; 0·35; 0·29 mm.; with a diameter of 0·06 mm. and more. Small, angular spicules with spiny prominences, which are more especially developed from the angles, have a length of 0·16 mm. The spicules in the tentacles are arranged in two converging series; they are simple spiny spindles of from 0·5 to 0·3 mm. in length.

The axis is horny, flexible, though brittle when dried as in *Paramuricea*. The colour of the stem is a dark brown, getting lighter towards the termination of the branches.

The cœnenchyma and the polyps are white.

Habitat.—Station 210, off the Philippine Islands; depth, 375 fathoms; bottom, blue mud.

Genus 5. *Clematissa*,¹ n. gen.

Like *Muriceides* in its habit, but resembling *Paramuricea* in its club-like thickened terminal branches, whose apices end in polyps. The spicules of the polyps are spiny, club-like, thickened at one end; not presenting the regular arrangement of those of *Paramuricea*. The basal portion of each tentacle, which is not retracted, contains two rows of converging, unilaterally thickened spicules.

The genus *Clematissa* shows in its habit a near relationship to *Paramuricea*. The three species included in it form large colonies branched in one plane, with long terminal branches, which at their apices are thickened and knob-like.

The cœnenchyma is thick, rough, and opaque. The polyps are arranged in short spirals on the stem and its branches; towards the termination of the branches they are closely crowded, so that they present a knob-like appearance. The termination of a branch is always formed by a polyp. The polyp calyces are bluntly conical, and rise for the most part upright from the stem and its branches. The œsophageal portion of the polyp, which in repose is retracted, is relatively short; there is always a collar of spicules, arranged in a ring-form.

The tentacular portion, which is not folded inwards, is relatively large and armed with large converging spicules, so that the eight basal portions of the tentacles form over the oral region an eight-rayed conically projecting operculum.

The spicules of the cœnenchyma are stout, usually thickened, with a knob-like termination bearing asperities; sometimes armed with branched spines, sometimes

¹ κληματίσσα.