

between them is totally wanting. There are two polian vesicles, one on each side of the ventral surface; their length is rather inconsiderable, only 7 or 8 mm. The madreporic canal penetrates the body-wall and opens externally by a pore, situated a little in front of the genital aperture; its parietes contain only a few scattered spicula, but the body-wall round its aperture is provided with large close-set, four-armed, more or less irregular calcareous deposits. The cloaca is small and insignificant. The reproductive organ consists of two large, wide tubes, which communicate anteriorly with a narrow efferent duct which opens at the top of a very small papilla placed immediately above the downwardly directed neck-part of the body. The said tubes bear scattered thin bundles of rather large, elongated cæcal sacs.

*Elpidia incerta*, n. sp. (Pl. VIII. fig. 1).

Body elongated, about twice and a half as long as broad, considerably depressed posteriorly. Mouth anterior, ventral. Anus posterior, dorsal. Tentacles large, of almost equal size, some of the dorsal ones a little smaller; their terminal part very large, circular and discoidal, with numerous small retractile processes. The dorsal surface with a pair of indistinct, tuberos processes at its foremost part. Pedicels ten, all along each side of the ventral surface, rather large, the posterior pair a little smaller. Integument thin, slightly rough and transparent, containing calcareous deposits, composed of four arms and two to four processes, resembling those of the preceding species.

Colour in alcohol, white. Length, about 90 mm. Breadth, about 27 mm.

*Habitat*.—Station 152. February 11, 1874. Lat. 60° 52' S., long. 80° 20' E. Depth, 1260 fathoms; diatom ooze. Four incomplete specimens.

This species seems to be most closely allied to *Elpidia willemoësi*; the four individuals brought home by the Challenger expedition differ indeed so slightly from it, that I have long been in doubt whether it is justifiable to refer them to a new species or not. The body has its greatest height, about 20 mm., anteriorly and thence it diminishes gradually backwards, the hindmost extremity becoming thus very thin. Anteriorly, where the body attains its greatest height, the dorsal surface bends rather abruptly downwards, forming a kind of rounded hump, whereby the neck-like narrow portion of the body, which supports the mouth and the tentacles, seems to have an almost perpendicular direction; thus the mouth has a thoroughly ventral position. The tentacles—only six are left in one specimen, and they are altogether torn off from the other three individuals—do not seem to be of quite equal size, a couple of the dorsal ones being a little smaller. Their terminal part is uncommonly large, circular, flat, and discoidal. The pedicels resemble in size and position those of the preceding species, excepting that here the first pair is placed a little further from the tentacles. The back bears only two tuberos indistinct projections, lying side by side, and situated just on the above-mentioned hump; they are so