

previously recorded species. The earlier portion of the test is built on a bolder, larger plan than the rest, and the septal lines are thickened and raised. The later segments are relatively narrow and small, possibly starved by some sudden alteration of habitat, and the sutures, though still limbate, are not so prominent.

The figured specimen was found in sand dredged off East Moncœur Island, Bass Strait, depth 38 fathoms.

Frondicularia inæqualis, Costa (Pl. LXVI. figs. 8-12).

- Frondicularia inæqualis*, Costa, 1855, Mem. Accad. Sci. Napoli, vol. ii. p. 372, pl. iii. fig. 3.
 „ *compressa*, Id. Ibid. p. 372, pl. iii. fig. 2.
 „ *whaingaroica*, Stache, 1864, Novara-Exped., geol. Theil, vol. i. p. 210, pl. xxii. fig. 43, a. b.
 „ *foliacea*, Schwager, 1866, Ibid. vol. ii. p. 236, pl. vi. fig. 76.
 „ *medelingensis*, Karrer, 1877, Geol. K. F.-J. Wasserleitung, p. 380, pl. xvi. b., fig. 25.
Flabellina foliacea, Brady, 1879, Quart. Journ. Micr. Sci., vol. xix., N. S., p. 57, pl. viii. figs. 8-10.

In the preliminary description of the recent specimens, this species was referred to the dimorphous genus *Flabellina*, though its close affinity to the *Frondicularia foliacea* of Schwager was at the same time fully stated. The position to which it was assigned was due to the irregularity of the earlier segments and their almost invariably inequilateral arrangement. Additional specimens have since been found, which tend to show that the species has an even greater range of variability than was at first recognised; and a further examination of the series has led to the conclusion that, though often unsymmetrical both in contour and disposition, the initial chambers are not in any strict sense Cristellarian, and hence that the form may properly be retained amongst the typical *Frondiculariæ*. A careful comparison of the figures of *Frondicularia inæqualis*, *Frondicularia compressa*, *Frondicularia whaingaroica*, *Frondicularia foliacea*, *Frondicularia medelingensis* with each other and with the drawings from living specimens now furnished, brings an irresistible conviction that they all represent mere individual modifications of one polymorphic species. In the recent condition the shell is seldom found entire, owing to its thin and fragile character, but even small fragments are easily identified.

Frondicularia inæqualis has been found in sands dredged at six Challenger Stations, namely:—at two points near the Ki Islands, depth 129 fathoms and 580 fathoms respectively; off Raine Island, Torres Strait, 155 fathoms; off the west coast of New Zealand, 275 fathoms; off the Cape of Good Hope, 150 fathoms; and off the coast of North America, south-east of New York, 1240 fathoms.

The fossil specimens above referred to were obtained from deposits of Miocene and Pliocene age, in various parts of the world.