

natural state the entire area is filled in by a rather thick epithelial membrane, in which alone is seated the semicircular or subrescentic operculum. Fertile cells distinguished by their greater width.

This curious type appears to have been first noticed by Mr. Macgillivray, who describes the zoarium in his specimens as "small, foliaceous, and convoluted," and Mr. Hincks as "foliaceous and bilaminar or incrusting." The few fragmentary specimens in the Challenger collection, on the other hand, represent portions of a small zoarium, composed of narrow, compressed ligulate branches, dividing irregularly in a furcate manner. The zoöcial character, however, in the main corresponds so exactly with that given to *Caleschara denticulata* by Mr. Macgillivray and Mr. Hincks, as apparently to reduce the Challenger form to a mere variety of that species.

With respect to the systematic position of *Caleschara*, opinions may well be divided, its characters at different stages of growth passing from those of a simple *Membranipora*, through *Amphiblestrum* to *Micropora*, with which latter genus it is very closely allied, differing in fact almost solely in the absence of a complete calcareous border round the mature oral orifice. On the whole, and taking the characters from the fully matured condition, I am disposed to agree with Mr. Macgillivray in thinking it worthy at any rate of subgeneric rank.

Caleschara denticulata?, var. *tenuis* (Pl. XXI. fig. 9).

Character—Zoarium erect, composed of narrow, ligulate, compressed, bilaminar branches. Frontal areas pyriform, separated by very wide, bevelled ridges, and deeply depressed in the middle, where an elliptical aperture is left, occupied in the lower two-thirds by a thick calcareous lamina attached below to the lower border of the aperture, and on each side above to its sides, leaving on either side an elongated fissure. The edges of the lamina toothed, and its surface, as well as that of the interzoöcial ridges, strongly granulated.

Habitat—Station 162, off East Moncœur Island, Bass Strait, 38 fathoms, sand and shells.

[Var. *foliacea* and *crustacea*, Queenscliff and Victoria, Mr. Watts; Curtis Island, Bass Strait, Captain Warren.]

Family XII. ELECTRINIDÆ.

Electrinidæ, d'Orb., 1851, Palæont. Franç., p. 329.

Membraniporidæ (pars), Auctt.

Character—Zoarium erect or incrusting, more or less flexible or subtestaceous. Zoöcia turbinate or subturbinate. Wall punctured. A wide expanding aperture, the