

Var. *a*, *cæspitosa* (Pl. XXVII. fig. 6).

(?) *Retepora tessellata*, Hincks, Macgilliv.

*Character*.—Zoarium a globose tuft about 1"·5 in diameter, constituted of intricately contorted meandriniform folds; the oval fenestræ as wide as or wider than the trabeculæ; the dorsal surface uneven, no raised vibices, but instead a depressed line marking out distinct areolæ. Zoœcia very indistinct, surface glistening and uneven, or sometimes granular. Orifice orbicular, widely sinuated in front. Peristome even with the surface. Oœcia conspicuous, transparent, shining, smooth, very slightly depressed in front, without either fissure or stigma. Anterior avicularia rostriform, mandible triangular, acute, or like a shark's tooth, pointing forwards and downwards, or nearly horizontally; dorsal avicularia very irregularly distributed, crowded in some parts and absent in others; mandible triangular, pointed. Operculum horse-shoe shaped.

*Habitat*.—Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope.

Var. *b*. *pubens* (Pl. XXVIII. fig. 3).

*Character*.—Zoarium of very lax habit, composed of compressed branches, which anastomose very irregularly, forming wide irregular meshes, rather than fenestræ, of all sizes and of an elongated rhomboidal form. Zoœcia urceolate, flattened in front and usually presenting a large rostriform avicularium. Mouth orbicular, with a wide sinus in front, and sometimes in the younger cells a little notch on each side. Surface generally finely granular, the granulations having the form of minute cones. Dorsal surface areolated, showing the outlines of the zoœcia, but no raised vibices, and in the centre of each area is a minute immersed avicularium, besides which are numerous prominent small avicularia, with mandibles of the same form as those of the anterior rostriform ones. Oœcia unknown. Operculum horse-shoe shaped.

*Habitat*.—Off Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope.

As this peculiar form is represented by only a single small fragment, covered with the acerose spicules of a sponge, which I at first mistook for a natural pubescence, the name was applied accordingly. Though not in the sense originally intended, the name is still to some extent justified by the beautiful granulation of the surface, the character of which is clearly shown in the fragments of the general epitheca

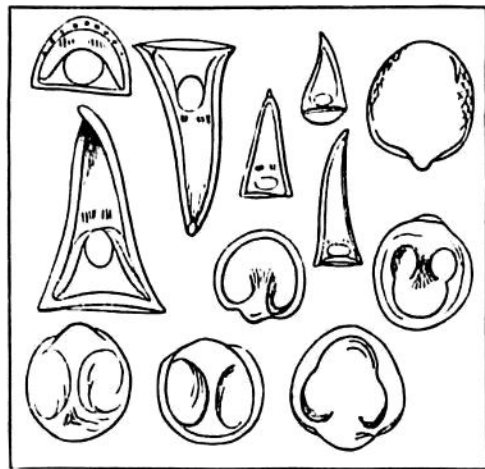


FIG. 20.—*Retepora tessellata* var. *cæspitosa*.

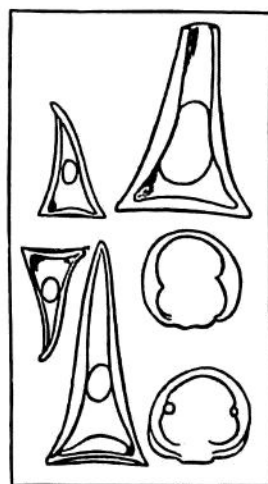


FIG. 21.—*Retepora tessellata* var. *pubens*.