

*Habitat*.—Station 161, entrance to Port Phillip, 33 fathoms, sand. Station 162, off East Moncœur Island, Bass Strait, 38 fathoms, sand, shells.

This is a very remarkable form, from its size and peculiar mode of growth. The description of the zoecia is taken from some at the growing edge, for in the older portions of the zoarium the characters are completely obscured by their crowded growth and deep immersion. The oral spines, though apparently not articulated, are very slender and fragile, and consequently are often wanting. The anterior avicularia are very small and inconspicuous, and may easily be overlooked. A great characteristic is the fine irregularly hexagonal areolation of the dorsal surface, and the existence of the minute umbonal avicularian papilla in nearly all the areolæ. The peculiar formation of the oecia is also remarkable.

(9) *Retepora atlantica*, n. sp. (?) (Pl. XXVIII. fig. 1).

(?) *Retepora cellulosa*, var. *marsupiata*, Smitt, *Florid. Bryoz.*, pl. xiii. figs. 245-254.

*Character*.—Zoarium an inch or more in diameter, infundibuliform or irregularly cupped, flexuose, white and pearly. Fenestræ oval, pretty uniform, not quite as wide as the trabeculæ. Zoecia (young) subcylindrical, free above; surface smooth. Orifice suborbicular. Peristome slightly thickened, often a slender spine on each side towards the front, and sometimes, especially in the lateral zoecia, rising on one side into three or four obtuse teeth. Labial fissure terminating in a round suboral pore; one angle thickened and prominent, supporting a small avicularium with a semicircular mandible. Oecia

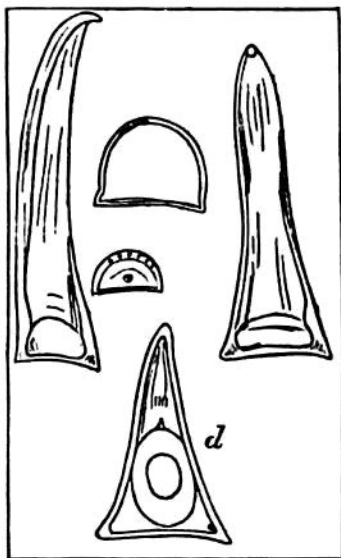


FIG. 25.—*Retepora atlantica*.

deeply immersed, with a very short vertical fissure with converging sulci or rugæ. Anterior avicularia adventitious on the front of a zoecium, varying much in size and sloping almost perpendicularly downwards. Mandible membranous, sword-shaped and apiculate. Dorsal surface smooth, vibicate, with elongated areolæ, and beset with numerous avicularia, seated chiefly on the sides of the fenestræ, with an elongated ensiform apiculate membranous mandible.

*Habitat*.—Station 75, lat. 38° 38' N., long. 28° 28' 30" W., 450 fathoms, volcanic mud.

[(?) Gulf of Florida, Smitt; Tenerife, W. K. P.; Adriatic, Heller.]

This form so closely corresponds in many respects with Professor Smitt's species, that I am strongly inclined to think they may be the same. The operculum varies somewhat in size and form, and perhaps could scarcely be distinguished from that of *Retepora beaniana* or *Retepora cellulosa*.