

or arched above, straight below, protected in front by a broad mucronate plate. Above the mouth a penthouse-like projection, usually bifid but sometimes continuous.

Habitat.—Station 135c, off Nightingale Island, Tristan da Cunha, 110 to 150 fathoms.

[South Patagonia, Darwin; between Patagonia and the Falkland Islands, Captain Warren, Hincks.]

I have followed Mr. Hincks in placing this very peculiar form under a distinct genus, quite agreeing with him that it is entitled to take that rank among the *Escharidæ*.

Mr. Hincks (*loc. cit.*) describes the zoarium as composed of two layers, and this was the condition in the form described by me in the Brit. Mus. Cat. under the name of *Eschara gigantea*; but the few fragments contained in the Challenger Collection exhibit only a single layer, and from the peculiar aspect of the dorsal surface it is obvious that when the layers are double, they are not inseparably united as in *Eschara*, but merely in apposition, so that in fact *Aspidostoma* should be regarded as belonging to the *Hemescharine* rather than to the *Escharine* type, or that the two layers are formed simply by reduplication of the lamina upon itself.

Mr. Hincks states that "leaning against the side of many of the cells, a little below the upper extremity, there is an avicularium, with a very short, broad, subtriangular mandible directed upwards"; and also that the "oœcia are elongate, much depressed, shield-like and granulated."

He also says that the broad shield-like plate in front of the mouth, or the "projecting lower lip" noticed in the Brit. Mus. Cat., is continued downwards for some distance within the cavity; and that attached to the inner surface of the plate, on a level with the margin of the orifice, is a semicircular membrano-calcareous frame into which the operculum fits.

§ 2. Primary mouth notched or sinuated below.

9. *Schizoporella*, Hincks.

Lepralia, (pars), Johnst., Busk, &c.

Escharina (pars), d'Orb.

Reptoporina (pars), d'Orb.

Escharella, subgenus *Herentia* (pars), Smitt, Krit. Förteckn.

Mollia (pars), Smitt, *Ibid.*

Schizoporella, Hincks, Brit. Mar. Polyz.

Character.—Zoarium erect and bi- or uni-laminar; or crustaceous and unattached; or adnate. Lower lip with a median notch. Operculum pedunculate, or contracted below.