

This genus is formed for a very striking and remarkable new species, *Colella thomsoni*, obtained near the Philippine Islands and some allied species from other parts of the world, but, as will be shown below, a species (*Colella pedunculata*) described fifty years ago by Quoy and Gaimard under the name of *Aplidium pedunculatum* also finds its place here. The two species, *Colella thomsoni* and *Colella pedunculata*, are very different in appearance, and at first sight seem to have nothing in common except that both are pedunculated Compound Ascidiæ. A careful examination, however, shows that they are really closely related.

The genus *Colella* is allied to *Oxycorynia*, von Drasche, and to *Distaplia*, Della Valle, and unites certain of their characters, the result being that it cannot be included in either of the older genera. Two courses are open, the first to unite the three groups under the generic title first published, *Distaplia*, 1881; the second to consider them as three distinct genera. I think there is sufficient difference between them to justify me in taking the latter course, but *Oxycorynia* and *Distaplia* can no longer be placed in distinct families as arranged by von Drasche, consequently I have, as is explained above, merged the Chondrostachyidæ in the older family, the Distomidæ.

Of the ten species of *Colella*, two (*Colella pedunculata* and *Colella thomsoni*) are described in detail. They are good species to take for this purpose, first on account of their central position amongst Compound Ascidiæ, and second on account of the fairly large size of the Ascidiozooids, especially in the case of *Colella thomsoni*.

The species of this genus may be distinguished by the following characters:—

