

to form a creeping stolon (fig. 9, *a* and *k*), and in one or two cases two masses are attached by peduncles to the same stolon (fig. 9, *l*). One colony from Kerguelen, 10 to 100 fathoms, consisting of two masses, has no peduncle. Two other colonies from the same locality are attached to the long peduncles of *Colella pedunculata*.

The colour varies from light grey through various shades of yellowish-grey to brown.¹ A warm yellow-grey, spotted with opaque light yellow is the most usual colour. The upper surface is generally uneven and rough, but the peduncle is smooth. The smallest colony measures 8 mm. in length and 4 mm. in breadth, the largest (one of the brown variety) is 8 cm. in length and 4.5 cm. in breadth.

The Ascidiozooids are conspicuous. Their anterior ends are all placed upon the upper, usually broad and rounded, end of the colony (Pl. XXIX. fig. 7), and they form circular areas from 0.5 to 1 mm. in diameter, raised slightly above the general surface.

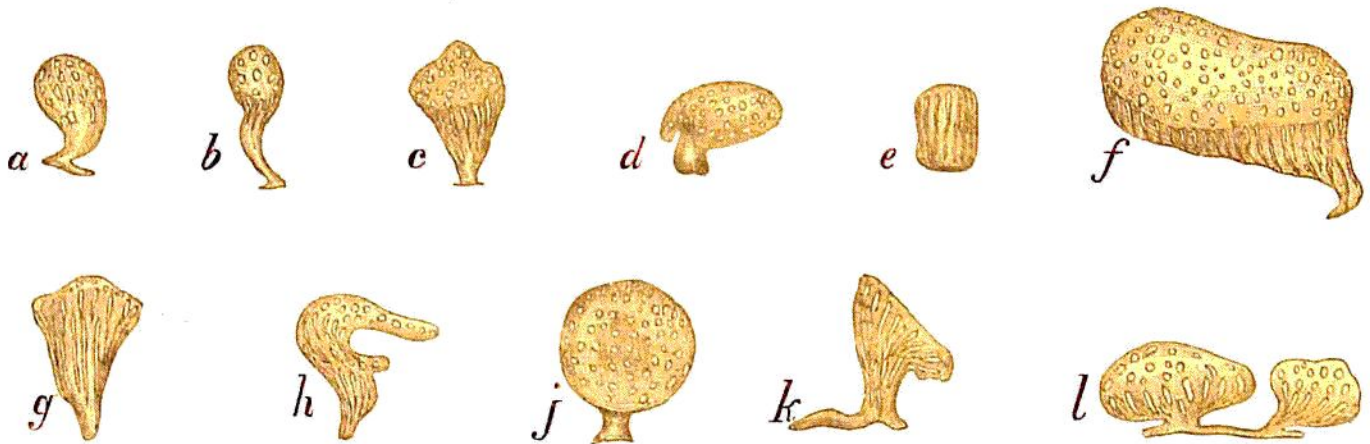


FIG. 9.—*a* to *l*. Eleven colonies of *Amaroucium variabile*, to illustrate the extent of individual variation in this species.

There is usually a common cloacal aperture on the upper end of the colony, and the Ascidiozooids are then arranged in several irregular circles around it. In the larger colonies there are two or three such apertures on the upper surface, but in some of the smaller ones there appear to be no common cloacal cavities present.

The long narrow bodies of the Ascidiozooids are generally visible on the sides of the colony extending downwards towards the peduncle (see fig. 9). The proportions of the body of the Ascidiozooid vary considerably in different colonies, and the difference seems to be due to the size of the post-abdomen. In some cases, although the anterior region of the body is large, the post-abdomen is comparatively short, while in other colonies it is of very great length (Pl. XXIX. fig. 9, *p.abd.*). The Ascidiozooids vary in antero-posterior extent from 3 mm. to 10 mm., and in greatest breadth from 0.5 mm. to 1 mm. The thorax is usually about 1 mm. and the abdomen 1.5 mm. in length.

¹ The darker specimens, of which there are a considerable number, are mostly larger than the others, and might be regarded as forming a distinct variety. They are very variable in shape. Figures 7 and 8 on Plate XXIX. were drawn from one of the brown specimens.