

*Sciurella indivisa*, n. sp. (Pl. V.).

*Trophosome*.—Colony attaining a height of ten inches; stem simple, monosiphonic, springing in clusters from the hydrorhiza; hydrocladia closely set, about two-tenths of an inch in length, arranged in four longitudinal alternating series, which extend from the summit of the stems to within a short distance of the base. Hydrothecæ deep, nearly cylindrical, adnate by their entire height to the supporting internode, every internode of the hydrocladium carrying a hydrotheca, and having, in addition to the lateral nematophores, a single mesial nematophore near its proximal end.

*Gonosome*.—Gonangia in pairs from the axils of the hydrocladia, urn-shaped in front view, with two symmetrically placed hollow lateral processes near the distal end; gonangial nematophores carried by the lateral processes, by the summit of the gonangium, and by its sides near the base.

As already stated (*see* p. 22), I am not disposed to regard a scattered or multiseriate disposition of the hydrocladia as affording sufficient grounds for generic separation from those forms of *Antennularia* in which the hydrocladia are verticillate. While, however, the disposition of the hydrocladia in *Sciurella indivisa* would thus not in itself afford a character by which this species could be generically separated from *Antennularia*, such a character is found in the remarkable form of the gonangia, with their branching blastostyle and the nematophores to which their walls give support.

The general resemblance of *Sciurella indivisa* to *Antennularia antennina* is so close, that, without the aid of a lens, a specimen of one of these hydroids might be easily mistaken for the other. The gonangium, though urn-shaped when viewed in front, is compressed laterally, and when viewed in profile is seen to have its axis curved backwards nearly in a semicircle.

The ramification of the blastostyle in the gonangium presents considerable symmetry, and was similar in every instance examined. A strong branch is sent off on each side into the lateral projections, and each of these branches sends out three short processes and one long one, which all pass directly to the perforations in the walls of the gonangium, in order to communicate with the corresponding nematophores which lie free on the outer surface of the walls. The short processes pass to nematophores which lie near the distal end of the gonangium, while the long processes pass down, one on each side, to communicate with two nematophores situated near the base of the gonangium.

The deep hydrothecæ of *Sciurella indivisa* contrast with the small shallow hydrothecæ by which most species of *Antennularia* are characterised.

Dredged off Somerset Island Cape York, Torres Strait; 5–10 fathoms.