

This form appears to be closely allied to *Retepora contortuplicata* and *Retepora cavernosa*.

(12) *Retepora hirsuta*, n. sp. (Pl. XXVI. fig. 4).

(?) *Retepora monilifera*, Macgilliv., Hincks.

*Character*.—Zoarium of large size, irregularly folded or crateriform, without any distinct peduncle. Fenestræ small, oval, uniform, and fringed, as it were, with the oral spines or cilia. Zoœcia in the older portions quite immersed; when young subcylindrical, with a glistening surface. Orifice suborbicular or triangular, with rounded angles. Peristome raised in front and on the sides; a short sublateral labial fissure, which is merged more or less completely into a very large round suboral pore nearly as large as the orifice. Usually five long clavate antenniform oral spines (often absent), except in the marginal zoœcia. Oœcia conspicuous, with a trifoliate stigma. Anterior avicularia with a long delicate acuminate mandible (fig. 4*d*.) pointing transversely, and a bifid beak. Similar dorsal or rather fenestral avicularia. Besides these, on every lateral zoœcium, a minute conical avicularium (fig. 4*c*.) which projects into the fenestra, and has a bifid beak and a sharp pointed retentive mandible. Dorsal surface smooth and polished, indistinctly areolated.

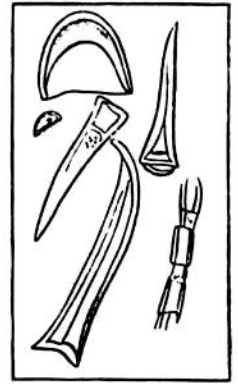


FIG. 29.—*Retepora hirsuta*.

*Habitat*.—Station 186, off Cape York, lat. 10° 30' S., long. 142° 18' E., 8 fathoms, coral mud.

Mr. Hincks (Ann. Nat. Hist. May 1878, p. 360, Pl. XIX. figs. 1–5), in describing Mr. Macgillivray's *Retepora monilifera*, remarks upon the great diversities in the habit of growth, and the remarkable variety of avicularian appendages which it exhibits. And Mr. Macgillivray (Proc. Roy. Soc. Vict., part. v. p. 4), notices several forms which he regards as varieties; and in my own collection I have several specimens doubtfully referrible to apparently the same generic type. In the Challenger Collection the only one referrible to this type is that above named, but to which, if any, of Mr. Hincks' or Macgillivray's supposed varieties I am quite unable to determine from the published descriptions or figures. To judge from Mr. Macgillivray's figures of the chitinous parts, it is, however, pretty certain that *Retepora hirsuta* does not represent either his typical *Retepora monilifera* nor any of its varieties as there depicted. Nor in the absence of the evidence afforded by those parts can it be determined whether it is the *Retepora monilifera* of Mr. Hincks or either of the varieties he alludes to. The trifoliate fissure on the oœcium and the moniliform or antenniform oral spines are common to several other quite distinct forms. So far as my observation extends I believe,