

(19) *Retepora phænicea*, Busk.

*Retepora phænicea*, Bk., Brit. Mus. Cat., vol. i. p. 94, pl. cxxi. figs. 1, 2.

*Character*.—Zoarium folded, expanding, much convoluted; of a purple colour. Zoecia ovate, ventricose. Orifice prominent, circular, sometimes subtubular. Border entire or irregularly serrate. Raised interzoecial septal ridges. Anterior avicularia sparse, placed obliquely on the front, close below the orifice, with an acuminate mandible very wide at the base. Oœcia immersed (when young having in front a concentrically marked operculum).

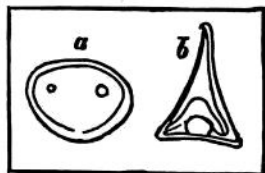


FIG. 34.—*Retepora phænicea*.

*Habitat*.—Station 162, off East Moncœur Island, Bass Strait, 38 fathoms, sand, shells.

[South Australia, Adelaide, Glenelg, Hincks.]

I have placed *Retepora phænicea* with the species furnished with a trifoliate stigma, considering that the stigma is represented by the sort of operculum with which its oœcium is at one time furnished, and which is probably of the same nature as the stigma.

§§ 4. Oœcia inconspicuous or unknown.

(20) *Retepora delicatula*, n. sp. (Pl. XXVI. fig. 3).

*Character*.—Zoarium about 0''·5 high, cup-shaped, springing from a central point, but without any actual peduncle. Fenestræ oval, uniform. Zoecia broadly ovate. Orifice wide, orbicular. Peristome raised and canaliculate in front, expanding on the sides. Anterior lip with a lateral fissure, terminating in a large rounded pore. On one side of the fissure an extremely minute avicularium, on a small tubercular thickening of the angle. From 1 to 3 oral spines, sometimes obscurely jointed on each side. Oœcia inconspicuous. Anterior avicularia extremely rare; seated on short conical processes. Mandible triangular, obtuse, pointing forwards; dorsal or rather fenestral avicularia deeply immersed; the mandible, which is deeply sunk, is long, slender, and usually furcate, pointing directly downwards.

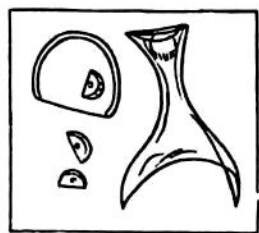


FIG. 35.—*Retepora delicatula*.

*Habitat*.—Station 190, lat. 8° 56' S., long. 136° 5' E., 45 fathoms, green mud.

The furcate fenestral avicularian mandible is something like that of *Retepora tubulata* and *Retepora columnifera*, but the limbs of the fork are wider, shorter, and pointed instead of being obliquely truncated. A special group might perhaps be made of the species having furcate retentive mandibles. There are several besides those in the Challenger Collection, and all probably Australian or New Zealand forms.