

7. *Mucronella*, Hincks.

Berenicea (pars), Fleming.
Lepralia (pars), Johnst., Bk. ; &c.
Escharella, Gray (sp.), Smitt.
Discopora (pars), Smitt, Gray.
Mucronella, Hincks, Brit. Mar. Polyz.
Eschara (sp.), Bk.

Character.—Zoarium erect and bi- or uni-laminar ; or crustaceous and unattached ; or adnate. Orifice mucronate in front.

(a) Bilaminar (escharan).

(1) *Mucronella contorta*, Busk (Pl. XX. fig. 9).

Eschara contorta, Bk., Brit. Mus. Cat. I. p. 89, pl. cviii. figs. 1, 2, 3.

Character.—Zoarium thick, lobate, undulate. Zoœcia almost hemispherical in front, surface closely and widely punctate. Mouth orbicular, lower border mucronate. On many of the zoœcia an avicularium with a duck-bill shaped mandible on one or both sides of the orifice, and sometimes a small one quite within its border on one side.

Habitat.—Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope.

[Algoa Bay ; Natal.]

The internal avicularium varies a good deal in size ; it was overlooked when the description of the species in the Brit. Mus. Cat. was drawn up, and is not always present nor visible.

(2) *Mucronella pyriformis*, n. sp. (Pl. XX. fig. 5).

Character.—Zoarium of small size, lobate. Zoœcia pyriform, immersed but separated by deep sulci. On the front a thick rounded elevated ridge surrounds the orifice, and the two sides joining, is continued as a tumid elevation to the bottom. Mouth suborbicular, apiculate in front, with a wide rounded internal denticle ; no frontal avicularium.

Habitat.—Station 161, off Port Philip, 33 fathoms, sand.

The above characters are only exhibited distinctly in the younger parts of the zoarium. In most parts the zoœcia are much overgrown so that the surface becomes almost level, the rounded orifices with the thickened annular peristome slightly projecting. And in this state the small apiculate mucro is altogether wanting. Sometimes the zoœcia assume a more or less ovate form. The species is very doubtfully referred to *Mucronella*.