

procured at a depth of 1785 fathoms by the late Dr. Gwyn Jeffreys during the Arctic cruise in the "Valorous."¹

Family SCALIBREGMIDÆ.

The Scalibregmidæ seem to be somewhat less common than the foregoing family in collections. No species is mentioned by Grube in the "Gazelle," and none appear amongst the Philippine series of Semper. None was found by Schmarda, and the same may be said of Kinberg. The occurrence of only two in the collection of the Challenger is therefore a fair representation of the family.

As a rule they frequent muddy ground, and some reach considerable depths; for instance, *Scalibregma inflatum*, from the cold area, at 412 fathoms in the "Norske Nordhavs-Expedition." They are, however, more abundant in the shallower waters.

Scalibregma, H. Rathke.

Scalibregma inflatum, H. Rathke, var. (Pl. XLIV. figs. 3, 4; Pl. XXIIA. fig. 21).

Habitat.—Dredged in considerable abundance at Station 141 (between Prince Edward Island and Kerguelen), December 17, 1873; lat. 34° 41' S., long. 18° 36' E.; depth, 98 fathoms; bottom temperature 49°·5, surface temperature 65°·5; sea-bottom, green sand.

Apparently the same form was trawled at Station 169 (off the north-west corner of New Zealand), July 10, 1874; lat. 37° 34' S., long. 179° 22' E.; depth, 700 fathoms; bottom temperature 40°·0, surface temperature 58°·2; sea-bottom, blue mud.

The specimens are all much smaller than the European *Scalibregma inflatum*, the longest measuring about 18 mm., with a breadth at the anterior thickened region of nearly 4 mm.

When compared with the European form of similar size, the foreign species has a more fusiform outline and much less of the inflation anteriorly. The branchiæ are similar, but in the Norwegian examples these are longer. In both the latter and the British specimens a prominent and continuous fold occurs behind the head (separated by a sulcus); but in the Challenger form the head has a greater antero-posterior diameter, and posteriorly there are two elevated surfaces or papillæ (Pl. XLIV. fig. 3). The only difference in regard to the tail is the apparent increase in the length of the cirri towards the tip, but in this respect so much depends on the state of the preparations that little reliance can be placed on it. The tessellated dorsal regions of the respective forms are very similar.

¹ *Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond. (Zool.)*, ser. 2, vol. i. p. 506, pl. lxx. figs. 15, 16.