

interradial area is occupied by numerous small intermediate or ventral plates, all of which bear groups of spinelets similar to those above mentioned; and most of the plates in a large specimen have a single flattened and pointed spinelet springing from the midst.

The mouth-plates are elongate and ovoid, prominent, with a regular and conspicuous armature, consisting of a single line of short, robust, papilliform spinelets, slightly flattened and with rounded tops, arranged along the outer margin of the surface of the plate. The space between the companion series of a mouth-angle is wide and elliptical in outline. On the free side of the plate, and at a higher level, is a secondary series of small mouth-spines, closely apposed to the bases of the superficial series, which fit into the interspaces, and are almost invisible when viewed from above. The innermost mouth-spines are considerably longer than the papilliform superficial armature, and form a small fan of four parallel spinelets at each mouth-angle, the outside spinelet at each side being shorter than the others.

The madreporiform body is small, and situated rather nearer the margin than midway between it and the centre of the disk.

Colour in alcohol, yellowish grey, with traces of a darker grey tint remaining here and there on the paxillar area.

*Locational Variation.*—Two examples from Simon's Bay are of much larger size than any of those which I have considered to be the type-form, and they are characterised by the presence of a small appressed spine on the supero-marginal plates on the lateral wall of the ray, near the rounding of the plate, and similar to the spines on the infero-marginal plates. The spinelet is wanting on a few plates in the interbrachial arc, and at the extremity of the ray.

In a still larger specimen from Station 164, off Sydney, the rays are much broader and flatter in appearance than in the examples above mentioned, and the supero-marginal plates extend further on the abactinal surface, forming a comparatively broad border when seen from above; and the single, delicate, appressed spine borne on the supero-marginal plates is even more elongate and conspicuous than in the specimens from Simon's Bay.

It is interesting to note that the South African form is distinctly intermediate in size and character between the New-Zealand and the Australian forms. Although the differences in appearance between the two latter are very striking when viewed by themselves, I do not feel warranted under the circumstances, and with such a small supply of material at command, in marking any of these distinctions by name. When more specimens are available, such a course may be found desirable.

*Localities.*—Station 167. North-west of Port Hardy, New Zealand. June 24, 1874. Lat. 39° 32' 0" S., long. 171° 48' 0" E. Depth 150 fathoms. Blue mud. Surface temperature 58°·5 Fahr.

Station 164. South-east of Sydney. June 12, 1874. Lat. 34° 8' 0" S., long. 152° 0' 0" E. Depth 950 fathoms. Green mud. Bottom temperature 36°·5 Fahr.; surface temperature 69°·5 Fahr.