

marginal plates, the whole forming a uniform covering which prevents the possibility of distinguishing the individual plates on superficial examination. Some of these papillæ appear to simulate incipient pedicellariæ, but their character is not well defined.

The madreporiform body is small and oval, situated a little on the outer side of a point midway between the margin and the centre of the disk; and its surface is grooved with comparatively few, narrow, highly convoluted, and irregular striation furrows, wide apart, causing it to have a rather coarse appearance.

Colour in alcohol, a bleached yellowish grey; sometimes with traces of a dark brown or faded purple shade on parts of the paxillar area, which lead to the inference that that might probably have been the original colour.

Locality.—Station 311. Off the western coast of South America, near the entrance to the Strait of Magellan, opposite Port Churrucá. January 11, 1876. Lat. $52^{\circ} 45' 30''$ S., long. $73^{\circ} 46' 0''$ W. Depth 245 fathoms. Blue mud. Bottom temperature $46^{\circ} 0$ Fahr.; surface temperature $50^{\circ} 0$ Fahr.

Remarks.—The peculiar skin-covered papillæ or spinelets, regarded by Danielssen and Koren¹ as sessile pedicellariæ in their admirable description of *Bathybiaster pallidus*, seldom seem in this species to appear so pedicellaria-like, or to be so highly specialised, as those described in the North-Atlantic form. I have therefore refrained from speaking of them definitely as pedicellariæ in the foregoing description. When, however, the voluminous membranous sac which invests each papilla or spinelet is folded, or injured at the extremity by slight breakage, the superficial resemblance is very striking to the structures described by the Norwegian naturalists. In some of the examples before me, the injury to the sac (in the form of a transverse slit) appears to have taken place during the life of the animal, probably by abrasion when passing over some rough surface, and the margins of the break are somewhat thickened, as if during subsequent healing.

The median spinelet in the furrow series of the adambulacral armature is not so highly specialised in the Southern as in the Northern form. It distinctly simulates, however, its character, the spinelet being covered with an extensive sac in which sometimes a supplementary calcareous lamina is present. The papulæ on the paxillar area may, under favourable circumstances, be well seen in the Southern form.

Notwithstanding these differences, after reviewing its structure as a whole, I feel little hesitation in referring the present species to Danielssen and Koren's well-defined genus *Bathybiaster*.

1a. *Bathybiaster loripes*, var. *obesa*, nov.

In a large series of examples from Kerguelen and Heard Island several small variations in detail may be noticed, which from their constancy appear worthy of special recognition.

¹ *Loc. cit.*, pp. 90-92.