

The madreporiform body is small and subtriangular in form, the angles of the triangle being rounded. It is situated rather nearer the centre than midway between that point and the margin, and lies within the steep declivity of the median interradial line. The striæ upon its surface are very fine and show much convolution. The anal aperture is distinct and excentric in position, being situated by the side of the large dorso-central plate.

Colour in alcohol, a bleached yellowish grey.

*Locality*.—Off Bahia. Depth and conditions not recorded.

*Remarks*.—This species may be distinguished from *Narcissia canariensis* by the shorter and broader rays, by the tubercular character of the abactinal plates on the median keel of the rays, by the large size and convexity of the marginal plates, as well as by the difference in the adambulacral armature. The two forms are, however, closely allied.

#### Subfamily METRODIRINÆ, Sladen, 1888.

#### Genus *Metrodira*, Gray.

*Metrodira*, Gray, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., 1840, vol. vi. p. 282.

*Scytaster (pars)*, Müller and Troschel, System der Asteriden, 1842, p. 34.

The aberrant characters of this genus have led me to place it in a distinct subfamily. Its external facies and general structure appear to indicate an intermediate position between the Linckiidæ and Echinasteridæ, but a knowledge of its internal anatomy, which unfortunately the material at my disposal does not enable me to supply, is desirable before the relationships of *Metrodira* can be more critically discussed.

#### *Chorology of the Genus Metrodira.*

##### a. *Geographical distribution*:—

EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO: One species between the parallels of 20° N. and 20° S.

*Metrodira subulata*, from Migupou and Torres Strait, and extending into the Pacific.

PACIFIC: Two species between the parallels of 30° (?) N. and 50° S.

*Metrodira subtilis*, off the coast of China. *Metrodira subulata*, from George Sound, New Zealand, and extending into the Eastern Archipelago.

β. *Bathymetrical range*: Probably confined to Shallow water. *Metrodira subulata* in 8 fathoms.

γ. *Nature of the Sea-bottom*: *Metrodira subulata* on Coral mud.