

the furrow, over which it is directed horizontally and not quite at a right angle to the axis of the plate, but directed very slightly aborally. Its length is about equal to half the width of the furrow, and it is covered with a membrane so delicate and close fitting as to appear naked. Not more than one or two pedicellariæ are present, and these are often wanting. The actinal spine is articulated on a small tubercular eminence near the middle of the actinal surface of the plate; it is about 1.5 to 2 mm. in length at 20 mm. from the base of the ray, delicate, cylindrical, rather robust at its base and tapering to a sharp point, and is invested with a delicate membranous sheath crowded with minute pedicellariæ. The lateral spines are delicate, cylindrical, tapering, 3.5 to 4.0 mm. in length at 25 mm. from the base of the ray, and encased in a membranous sheath crowded with pedicellariæ, and each is articulated on a small, triangular, rudimentary plate—the representative of an infero-marginal plate. These small rudimentary plates are sutured to the adambulacral plates by the base of the triangle, and the lateral spine is then articulated on the aboral facet, the normal direction of the spine being consequently outward at an angle of about 45° to the axis of the ray, and this conspicuous little plate recalls in the most vivid manner the attachment of the pinnule of a *Comatula*. At the extreme base of the ray there are two of the rudimentary marginal plates (which Sars¹ named dorso-marginal); the first, which articulates on the so-called odontophore, is as long as the adambulacral plate on which it is superposed, whilst the next is very much smaller. I consider that these are the representatives of infero-marginal plates and not supero-marginal, as supposed by Sars—a mistake which I would suggest has arisen from the adambulacral plate appearing at first sight to stand as an inferior marginal plate in relation to these small plates. From the fact that the plates in question are attached to the adambulacral plates and the odontophore, and likewise when further out on the ray bear the lateral spine, it would, in my opinion, seem far more natural to rank them as the rudiments or representatives of infero-marginal plates than of supero-marginals.

Colour in alcohol, a rather dark brownish grey, the ambulacral tube-feet being dark brown.

Locality.—Station 146. Between Marion Island and the Crozet Islands. December 29, 1873. Lat. 46° 46' 0" S., long. 45° 31' 0" E. Depth 1375 fathoms. Globigerina ooze. Bottom temperature 35°·6 Fahr.; surface temperature 43°·0 Fahr.

Station 147. West of the Crozet Islands. December 30, 1873. Lat. 46° 16' 0" S., long. 48° 27' 0" E. Depth 1600 fathoms. Diatom ooze. Bottom temperature 34°·2 Fahr.; surface temperature 41°·0 Fahr.

Remarks.—*Brisinga membranacea* is remarkable for the extremely delicate and rudimentary character of the abactinal skeleton which is represented only by transverse bars

¹ On some remarkable forms of animal life from the great depths off the Norwegian coast, Part II., University Program, Christiania, 1875, p. 9.