

The first radials partially visible; the second short and oblong. Axillaries triangular, twice the length of the second radials, and forming with them a more or less distinct median tubercle. The first two brachials wedge-shaped (the first least so), with sharp outer edges and a similar median elevation in their line of union. Ten arms of about one hundred and sixty short joints, which are wide and nearly oblong till the second syzygy, after which they are narrower and more triangular, gradually becoming more oblong again and finally square at the ends of the arms. The middle of the distal edge of each joint in the lower part of the arm is slightly raised, and gradually develops into a keel or crest curving slightly forwards. This may follow immediately after the median tubercle between the first and second brachials, or not begin till after the twentieth joint, and varies very much in its development, gradually becoming less marked towards the ends of the arms. Syzygies in the third and about the eighth and twelfth brachials, and then at intervals of two to eight joints, usually about four or six.

The lower pinnules are all of tolerably equal length. That on the second brachial is about 12 mm. long, rather slender, and consists of some twenty trihedral joints, most of which are longer than wide. The following pinnules have rather wider and more flattened joints, with a sharp dorsal edge, and they gradually increase in stoutness till that on the sixth brachial, which is the largest pinnule on the arm. The next few pinnules decrease slowly in stoutness but increase in length, their outer joints becoming relatively longer, but the basal ones remain wide for some distance; the terminal pinnules long and filiform.

Disk and ambulacra naked; sacculi very abundant on the disk, arms, and pinnules.

Colour in spirit,—very variable; light brown, purple, or various combinations of the two, either mottled or in broad or narrow bands; other specimens are mottled purple and white.

Disk 11 mm.; spread about 25 cm.

Locality.—Bahia, 7 to 20 fathoms.

Other Localities.—Off St. Lucia (278 fathoms); Venezuela; Pernambuco; the Abrolhos Islands; Rio Janeiro; Chile; Java (?); Ceylon; the Seychelles; Muscat; Aden; Red Sea; Zanzibar; Mauritius; Madagascar; St. Helena.

History.—This species has a wide distribution in the littoral zone of the tropical and the southern subtropical seas; and it is not improbably therefore identical with the *Alecto carinata* of Leach,¹ who defined his type very briefly from a specimen *sine patria* in the British Museum. But the originals of Leach's species are not now to be found in the national collection, although Professor F. J. Bell has made a careful search

¹ *Zool. Miscellany*, 1815, vol. ii. p. 63.