

2. *Actinometra maculata*, n. sp. (Pl. V. figs. 1, *a-d*; Pl. LV. fig. 2).

*Specific formula*— $a.2.\frac{br}{2}.\frac{bc}{ab}$ .

Centro-dorsal a wide disk bearing twenty-five to thirty-five cirri of about twenty joints. A few of the lower joints are longer than wide, but the remainder are short, laterally compressed, and bluntly spinous.

The first radials are concealed, and also part of the second, which are closely united laterally. Two distichals, the axillary not a syzygy.

Twenty arms, of about one hundred and twenty shortly triangular joints, which overlap slightly and are sometimes almost saucer-shaped. The first two brachials are united by syzygy, and there may be another in the third brachial. The next is about the tenth or twelfth joint, and others follow at intervals of two or three joints.

The second brachial has a pinnule some 15 mm. long, with a well-defined terminal comb; and the length gradually decreases to the pinnules of the eighth or tenth brachials, which are stouter, but not specially short, and have no comb.

The two basal joints of the first four pinnules on each side are more or less carinate.

Mouth radial; disk naked.

Colour in spirit,—dark reddish-brown, somewhat mottled with patches of yellowish-green.

Disk 12 mm.; spread 14 cm.

*Locality*.—Station 186, September 8, 1874; Prince of Wales Channel; lat. 10° 30' S., long. 142° 18' E.; 8 fathoms; coral mud. Two specimens, one much mutilated.

*Remarks*.—This elegant species differs from *Actinometra pulchella* in the shortness of its arm-joints, a character in which it resembles *Actinometra stelligera* (Pl. LV. fig. 2; Pl. LVIII. fig. 1). It is possibly identical with Lütken's MS. species, *Actinometra fusca*, from Bowen, in the Copenhagen Museum.

The calyx has many resemblances to that of the allied species *Actinometra stelligera* (Pl. V. figs. 1, 5, *a-d*). In both cases the centro-dorsal is wider than the radial pentagon, so as to conceal part of the second radials (figs. 1*a*, 5*a*), while the basal star is very well defined (figs. 1*c*, 5*d*). The under surface of the centro-dorsal in *Actinometra maculata* is marked by five indistinct elevations which correspond in position with the low ridges beneath the basal grooves in its internal cavity.