

internodes are seen to be white, cylindrical, and deeply and spirally grooved, they are of a stony hardness; this grooving is partly visible through the cœnenchyma. The terminal internodes are horny, yellow, often waved, not very calcareous, but decidedly sclerogorgic.

The polyps are placed on the sides of the branches; they are completely retractile within the cœnenchyma, being indeed when completely withdrawn sunk below its level, and thus not presenting the slightest trace of verrucæ. The dorsal and front portions of the branches are free from polyps, which sometimes form a single row on the sides of the branches, but occasionally they occur in clusters.

The cœnenchyma is thin and friable, with an outer layer of large short spiny spindles; the spicules around the polyp openings are long spiny spindles.

Colour a dirty yellow, polyp openings pink.

The spicules measure:—the Stachelkeule 0·18–0·08 at top and 0·02 mm. at bottom of spicule, 0·12–0·04; a few like Blattkeule, but very small, are found, 0·04–0·04 mm. The bent spiny spindles measure 0·2–0·06; 0·2–0·02 mm. The double crosses 0·2–0·06; 0·06–0·04; 0·04–0·04 mm.

*Habitat.*—Reefs, Samboangan, Philippines.

*Melitodes nodosa*, n. sp. (Pl. XL. fig. 10).

Fragments of several colonies, dredged at Japan and off the New Hebrides, are in the collection; they appear to be distinct enough to merit description.

The colony is attached by an irregular calcareous basal disc, and may have been about 130 mm. in height and from 60 to 80 mm. in diameter. The branches arise all in the one plane; the internodes vary from 5 to 10 mm. in length, the shortest being nearest the base, where the diameter is 2 mm., they are cylindrical and slightly grooved. The nodes are prominent, the larger being 3·5 mm. high by 2·5 mm. broad. The terminal twigs are slender and not more than 0·5 mm. in diameter. It is noteworthy that some of the branches are given off from the internodes.

The branches only anastomose very feebly, so as to form but a few very wide meshes.

The polyps are clustered all over the front portion of the branches; sometimes even occurring on the nodes, but the back portion of the colony is almost destitute of polyps. This arrangement of the polyps is not so well marked on the terminal portions of the branches, where the polyps are to be found all round the axis. The polyps are retractile, within well-marked verrucæ, of from 0·75 to 1 mm. in diameter.

The general colour of the colony is a reddish-brown; the nodes being of a darker hue. Deprived of its cœnenchyma and polyps, the colour of the axis is a yellowish-red. The polyps are of a yellow colour.

The spicules of the cœnenchyma are irregular curved spindles with long blunt