

polyps are large, club-shaped, with rough surfaces and without longitudinal markings. The tentacles are folded together over the mouth.

Height of the colony 38 mm. Greatest breadth 20 mm. Length of the sterile portion of the stem 6 mm. Length of a branch 8 mm. Size of a polyp 2 to 2.5 mm.; diameter of the same 1 to 1.3 mm.

The base covers over a fragment of a *Balanus*. The outer coating of the stem is tough, leathery, wrinkled, with a rough surface. In the lower part of the stem the branches are small, wart-like, with only three or four polyps; between them occur also individual isolated polyps. Higher up the branches become large and ramify. The summit is occupied by a number of short, upwardly tending branches.

The spicules fill the mesoderm of the stem, of the branches, and of the polyps, and extend into the tentacles. They are straight and curved spindles with large lateral spines, which bear numerous secondary dentations; sometimes lateral branched processes are developed. The dentations are often more developed on one side than on the other, the spindles possess lateral, warty processes, upon which strong, sometimes branched spines are developed. These spindles have the following dimensions. Length to breadth—0.09 by 0.05; 0.025 by 0.05; 0.09 by 0.04; 0.25 by 0.03 mm.

Besides the spindles there are also numerous spiny clubs, with one end slender and pointed, the other thickened and provided with simple or branched spines 0.1 by 0.07 mm. in size. Here also an asymmetry in the arrangement of the spines is frequently to be observed. There exist also numerous transition forms between these latter and the spindles. There are also twin forms, cross-shaped, 0.04 mm. in size; forked spicules, 0.16 mm. long, with a divergence of 0.07 mm., &c. All the spicules are of a brown colour. The entire colony has hence a dark sepia-brown hue. In this respect it agrees with *Eunephthya nigra*, Pourtales, but the polyps of the latter do not, according to Verrill, bend inwards, but stand out straight and have eight markings running down the sides.

*Habitat*.—Station 163A, off Port Jackson; lat. 36° 59' S., long. 150° 20' W.; depth, 150 fathoms.

#### Genus *Spongodes*, Lesson, Verrill.

*Alcyonium (pars)*, Esper, Pflanzenthier, t. iii. p. 49.

*Spoggodes*, Lesson, Illustr. de Zool., 1834.

*Nephthya*, Ehb., Corallenthiere des rothen Meeres, p. 60.

*Spoggodiu*, Dana, Zoophytes, p. 625, 1846.

*Spongodes*, Verrill, Proc. Essex. Inst., vol. vi. p. 81, 1869.

*Spoggodes*, *Spoggodia* et *Morchellana*, Gray, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., p. 27, 1862.

*Spongodes*, Klunzinger, Korallenthiere des rothen Meeres, p. 34, 1877.

Verrill has shown (*loc. cit.*) that the name adopted by Lesson, derived from the Greek *σπογγώδης*, spongy, should, according to accepted rules of orthography, be written in the Latin style, *Spongodes*; see also Klunzinger (*loc. cit.*).