

events it does not, as might be supposed, indicate a difference of sex, ova being present in both forms.

Like most of the examples of *Halecium* contained in the collection, the present species had its soft parts fairly well preserved, so that the general form of the hydranths could be delineated while the germinal vesicle and spot were quite distinct in the ova.

The collection contained no example of a colony with male gonosome.

*Halecium cymiforme*, n. sp. (Pl. VII. figs. 1-5).

*Trophosome*.—Hydrocaulus a very slender sub-dichotomously branched stem, which springs from a bundle of creeping tubular filaments. Hydrophores borne on the summits of the branches, and with a moderately wide, reflexed limbus.

*Gonosome*.—Gonangia (male?) pyriform, compressed, borne like the hydrophores on the summits of the branches, and having their contents crowned with a cap which disappears as the gonophore advances towards maturity.

*Locality*.—Station 312, Port Famine, Patagonia; lat. 53° 37' 30" S., long. 70° 56' 0" W.; depth, 9 fathoms.

*Halecium cymiforme* presents a multitude of very slender branches of uniform thickness, each springing from a point near the distal end of its predecessor, the whole forming a combination not unlike what may be seen in certain forms of the definite inflorescence known to botanists as a cyme. Usually two small branches are given off close to one another near to the distal end of the preceding one, thus giving a dichotomous character to the ramification.

The hydrorhizal portion of the specimen examined consisted of numerous tubular filaments, which ran in close apposition to one another along the stems and branches of another Hydroid, giving off from distance to distance their slender stems, which soon began to multiply by ramification, and which scarcely differed in diameter from the hydrorhizal filaments from which they sprang. The branches are provided with a few annulations at their origin, and occasionally a few in the course of their length; but they present no true joints, and we must regard the entire hydrocaulus as composed of a succession of internodes, each springing laterally from its predecessor, instead of being in direct continuation with it. The ramification of *Halecium cymiforme* is thus very similar to that which occurs in *Halecium dichotomum*. The distal extremity of every internode or segment of the ramification is free, and becomes in some cases continued into a hydrophore, while in others it carries a gonangium.

The hydrophores are represented by the free ends of the segments crowned by a limbus whose extreme rim is usually reflexed, and are frequently continued by one or two accessory hydrophores. The wreath of brilliant points, by which the limbus of the hydrophore is in the genus *Halecium* almost universally ornamented, cannot here be detected.