

wide interval of the stem, into the cavity of which that of the hydrotheca opens through the medium of a short tubular continuation of its proximal end.

The perisarc of the stem is simply continuous and monothalamic, and its contained cœnosarc is consequently quite destitute of the peculiar segmentation which is so striking in the pinnæ. The cœnosarc of the stem lines the perisarc with a rather thin layer, whose endoderm is thrown into an irregular network of tubular ridges, a condition which prevails also in *Antennularia*, and is elsewhere not without its parallel among the Hydroida.

Idia pristis, Lamouroux (Pl. XXXIX. figs. 1-10).

Idia pristis, Lamouroux, Polyp. Coral. flex., p. 200, pl. v. fig. 5.

Trophosome.—Stem monosiphonic, simple,¹ springing from a plexus of tubular filaments, and sending off along nearly its entire length moderately long, rather close-set, alternate pinnæ, which are for the most part intersected by transverse joints at distant and variable intervals. Hydrothecæ of pinnæ alternate, with their opposed sides adnate to one another, and with the free distal end diverging at a wide angle from the hydrocaulus, tapering to a point and opening by a very oblique orifice which is directed backwards, and closed by a membranous valve; hydrothecæ of stem not adnate by their opposed sides.

Gonosome.—Gonangia borne exclusively by the main stem, each springing from a point just below the base of a hydrotheca, uniform, longitudinally fluted, attached to the stem by a short but definite peduncle; summit abruptly narrowed into a conical roof, which bears on its apex the wide, circular orifice.²

Locality.—Station 203, off Panay, Philippine Islands; lat. 11° 61' N., long. 123° 9' E.; depth, 20 fathoms.

Off Bahia; depth, probably 10 to 20 fathoms.

Idia pristis is the only known representative of the genus; and the only description of it hitherto published consists in the short and inadequate diagnosis given by Lamouroux.

It occurs in the form of groups of undivided stems which send off along nearly their

¹ The apparently branched condition of the main stem is due to a cause different from that of a true ramification. See below, p. 86.

² Lamouroux, to whom we owe the original definition of the genus *Idia*, knew nothing of the gonosome, and, except in a short notice by Mr. Hincks (*Journ. Linn. Soc. Lond. (Zool.)*, vol. xxi., 1887), this important part of the colony has hitherto remained undescribed. Mr. Busk, however, had many years ago examined it in specimens from the Persian Gulf, and I am indebted to him for an opportunity of inspecting the excellent figures which he then made of the gonangia. He has also placed his specimens in my hands, and I have thus been enabled to compare these with the examples brought home by the Challenger. One of the examples of *Idia pristis*, dredged by the Challenger off Bahia, is furnished with gonangia. No gonosome is present in any of the other specimens.