

Genus 62b. *Stephonalia*,<sup>1</sup> n. gen.

*Definition*.—Stephalidæ with a double or multiple corona of nectophores, arranged in two or several circles. Tentacles of two different forms and unequal sizes, larger proximal and smaller distal.

The genus *Stephonalia*, represented by the remarkable deep-sea species figured in Pl. VI., is closely allied to the preceding genus, *Stephalia* (Pl. VII.), and was formerly confounded by me with it. But a closer examination and comparison of the two forms showed some peculiar differences between them, which now seem to me to possess a generic value. Firstly, the corona of nectophores, although very incompletely preserved, seems to be composed of two (or even three) circles; and if this be true then *Stephonalia* agrees in this point with *Rhodalia*, and bears to it the same relation as *Stephalia* does to *Auralia* (both with a single circle of nectophores). A second difference between *Stephalia* and *Stephonalia* seems to be in the shape of the tentacles. Whilst these are all quite simple and uniform in the former, they are of two different kinds in the latter. A third difference is found in the development of a large gonopalpon in each cormidium of *Stephonalia*, whilst this seems to be rudimentary in *Stephalia*. Finally, the muscles of the pneumatophore in the latter genus are equally disposed, whilst in *Stephonalia* eight strong radial muscles and corresponding meridional constrictions are marked regularly disposed at equal distances (Pl. VI. fig. 33).

*Stephonalia bathyphysa*, n. sp. (Pl. VI.).

*Habitat*.—South Pacific, west of Cook's Strait, New Zealand. Station 166, June 23, 1874; lat. 38° 50' S., long. 169° 20' E.; depth, 275 fathoms.

*Corm*.—Two specimens of this interesting Auronect were found by me in the Challenger collection, both rather well preserved, although very much contracted and altered by the action of the alcohol. The first specimen (fig. 32, seen from the left side in profile; fig. 33, from the dorsal side) was pretty complete, and had a length of 20 mm., a breadth of 16 mm. The second specimen, somewhat larger, but incomplete, had lost the greater part of the nectosome as well as of the siphosome; but the upper third of the latter, with the corona of large-tentacled siphons, was better preserved than in the first specimen; its length was 24 mm., breadth 20 mm. (figs. 34–38).

*Nectosome*.—The large, flatly spheroidal pneumatophore (figs. 32, 33, *p*) is distinguished by an unusual development of the muscles in its thickened wall. Eight

<sup>1</sup> *Stephonalia* = Small marine corona, στεφάνιον, ἄλιος.