

lateral costæ, and appear as irregularly dentate ridges separated by slight depressions. The calicle is compressed from side to side in the centre, so as to be narrowest there. Its upper margin is curved, describing about one-third of a circle. There are six systems of septa disposed in five cycles. The septa, which are extremely thin and fragile and covered with rounded granules, are disposed in rows. The primary septa approximately equal to the secondary, giving somewhat the appearance of twelve systems. These septa are broad and prominent, with a rounded superior margin, and show curved lines of growth very distinctly. The septa of the third, fourth, and fifth cycles successively diminish in breadth, and are thus very markedly distinguished from one another and from the primary and secondary septa. The quaternary septa join the tertiary a short distance before reaching the columella. The septa of the fifth cycle are incomplete. The margin of the calicle is very deeply indented, the costæ corresponding to the primary and secondary septa being prolonged in conjunction with the outer margins of those septa into prominent pointed processes. Similar but shorter costal prolongations accompany the tertiary septa and some of the quaternary. Between each of the sharp projections thus formed the edge of the wall of the calicle presents a curved indentation. The fossa of the calicle is extremely deep and capacious. The columella is elongate, with a nearly smooth surface formed of processes from the bases of the septa. All three perfect specimens obtained were of nearly the same size, and of closely similar form, being all pinched together towards the centre and showing no tendency to broaden out there, nor to become irregular or to split up into fragments. The two broken specimens are in form, as far as they go, precisely similar to the perfect ones.

Judging apparently only from the woodcut given in *Nature*,¹ and without having referred to my paper in the Proceedings of the Royal Society, Professor Lindström has placed this species with *Flabellum laciniatum*. He describes specimens dredged off the Azores in from 200 to 300 fathoms as agreeing with certain descriptions and figures given by Professor Martin Duncan and myself.² I can see no resemblance between Professor Duncan's figures cited by him and my own; nor can I think, after examining specimens of *Flabellum laciniatum* lent to me by Professor Duncan, that the two corals can be identical. I cannot, however, tell what amount of variation a long series of specimens might show. The large size, extreme lightness and fragility, and the peculiarly curved contours of the deep-sea form seem to be sufficient to separate it specifically. The Challenger specimens were obtained off the Azores also, but from a depth of 1000 fathoms.

With the adult corals were obtained two very small specimens, which seem almost certainly to be the young of the present species. They are in the form of small hexagonal columns slightly expanded above, and showing on each of the six faces a

¹ *Nature*, vol.viii. p. 400.

² G. Lindström, *Actinology of the Atlantic Ocean*, p. 12.