

*Flabellum patens*, n. sp. (Pl. VI. figs. 4,  $\alpha$ , 5,  $\alpha$ ).

The adult corallum is wedge-shaped, with smooth sides. The form varies very much; the lateral costæ, which are sharp and more or less indented, varying in the angle which they make with one another between  $100^\circ$  and  $160^\circ$ . The inclinations of the lateral faces to one another vary from  $30^\circ$  to  $50^\circ$ . The surface of the corallum is smooth in very young specimens, polished, and of a red-brown colour; the principal costæ are only just visible. There are distinct curved accretion lines in all the specimens, and in some deep transverse plications indicating a tendency to fission as in *Flabellum stokesi*, but this does not occur. There is a distinct short cylindrical pedicle. The summits of the short axis of the calicle are much higher than those of the long axis, and the lateral margins of the calicle describe even curves of nearly half a circle. The septa are very numerous, being doubtless added to in growth at the ends of the long diameter of the calicle, as in *Flabellum irregulare*, Semper.<sup>1</sup> In one perfect specimen there are 192 septa of three sizes, twenty-four being complete, and, in appearance, equal and primary. In another more adult specimen there are 268 septa of four different dimensions, but the septa are a little irregular, and, at one end, the corallum has evidently had a considerable piece broken away, and this has been restored with a remarkable maintenance of symmetry in the form of the corallum and septal arrangement. In another specimen there are 248 septa. The faces of the septa are covered with fine pointed granules. There is a deep elongate but narrow fossa well filled up at its bottom by columellar outgrowths. This coral is closely allied both to *Flabellum stokesi* and *Flabellum pavoninum*. It differs from *Flabellum stokesi* in not breaking away from the stock as growth proceeds, and multiplying by fission, and also in its more widely open form. In the young condition it is often very like *Flabellum stokesi*, indeed hardly distinguishable, but this fact is merely in accordance with the usual law of the likeness of the young of allied animals. From *Flabellum pavoninum*, *Flabellum patens* differs in having its faces less smooth than the former, and in having more septa.

Extreme height of the calicle of a large specimen, 43 mm. Extreme breadth of the calicle, 55 mm. Shorter diameter of the calicle, 28 mm.

Station 192, off the Ki Islands. 129 fathoms. Six specimens.

*Flabellum stokesi*, Milne-Edwards and Haime (Hist. Nat. des Cor., vol. ii. p. 96).

*Flabellum variabile*, Semper, Z. f. Wiss. Zool., 1872, p. 245, = *Flabellum oweni*, *Flabellum aculeatum*, and *Flabellum spinosum*, all of Milne-Edwards and Haime, l.c.

Professor Semper, in his memoir entitled Ueber Generationswechsel bei Steinkorallen, shows the identity of the three above-cited species of MM. Milne-Edwards and Haime, and their relations to one another in development. One of the original names

<sup>1</sup> Semper, Generationswechsel bei Steinkorallen, Z. f. Wiss. Zool., 1872, p. 242.