Zoology Part VII: Report on Certain HYDROID, ALCYONARIAN, and MADREPORIAN CORALS. By Professor H. N. Mose

A single specimen, broken, but with many of the calicles fresh looking, as if the coral had recently been living, was dredged.

Station 196. Off the Moluccas. Lat. 0° 48′ S., long. 126° 58′ E. 825 fathoms.

Neohelia, n. gen.

Corallum, with a very abundant and diffuse cœnenchym encrusting the stems of Gorgonoids, with very short branches only. Calicles with the septa arranged in five systems, which are often fused together by the cœnenchym; gemmation irregularly dichotomous.

Five systems and four cycles of septa; a deep fossa; no columella.

Neohelia porcellana, n. sp. (Pl. X. figs. 7, 7*a*).

The corallum rises from a broad base in a thick irregular column, encrusting dead Gorgonoid stems, and the stones to which these are attached. There is an abundant diffuse, bluish-white, semitransparent cœnenchym which solders together the branches, and covers the invested objects so as completely to hide them. The central column is composed partly of fused branchlets of the coral itself, partly of invested gorgonoid structures. Many of the branchlets of the coral, which appear, as if entirely composed of its own structure, are found when broken, to be traversed internally by a flexible Gorgonoid branch almost as large in diameter as themselves, as seen in a broken branch in the specimen represented in figure 7, on the right hand side in the sketch. Besides these encrusting branchlets, the corallum bears also all over some very short branches, which are solid and composed of its own structures entirely. The surface of the cœnenchym is marked all over by very slightly elevated rounded ridges which traverse it irregularly, but with a general longitudinal direction, and are continuous at the margins of the calicles with the costæ. The gemmation is irregularly dichotomous. The calicles are small, and circular in outline. There are uniformly in all the calicles five systems of septa, and three cycles—twenty septa in all. The septa of the three cycles are distinctly unequal. The septa are very slightly exsert, and are continued just over the margin of the calicle as very short costæ; they are straight, smooth, and thin-edged, near the mouth of the calicle; but deep down, within the fossa, their fine margins become thickened and sinuous, and covered with granules, and the primaries and secondaries meet one another, but without the formation of a columella. On the young branches the calicles are short and cylindrical; on the main stem they become buried up to their margins, or obliterated by the cœnenchyma.

All the three specimens obtained encrust Gorgonoid stems in a closely-similar manner; two of them encrust also stones to which the Gorgonoid stem is attached. I have counted the septa in a very large number of calicles, but have found them alike in all, namely, twenty, so that in this matter the coral resembles certain species of

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