Length of each calicle, 4 mm. Diameter of the mouths of the calicles, 2½ mm.
Station 210, between Panglao and Siquijor Islands, Philippine Islands. 375 fathoms.

Solenosmilia.

Solenosmilia variabilis, Duncan, Madreporaria of the Deep Sea, part i. p. 328, pl. xiii. figs. 11–18. (Pl. IX. figs. 1–5).

Lophohelia tubulosa, Studer, Monatsbt. der K. P. Akad. der Wiss., 1878, s. 631, taf. i. fig. 8, *a–e*.

I give a series of figures of this species because it is a very widely-spread and characteristic deep-sea form, and varies exceedingly. Many specimens dredged by us were dead, old, and much broken, but always recognisable by the peculiar mode of branching and the texture of the cœnenchym. The peculiar mode in which the young terminal calicles communicate with one another whilst fission is proceeding, as described by Professor Duncan, is shown in figure 3. Since the plate was prepared Pourtalès has published very good drawings of the same subject.[1] Professor Studer has shown that a somewhat similar condition exists in *Lophohelia*.[2]

In some of his specimens Professor Duncan observed the presence of a peculiar dark green pigment. It would be of great interest to submit this colouring matter to spectroscopic examination. In none of the Challenger specimens was this coloration observed, but this may be due to the fact that they were placed at once either in strong alkaline solutions or in spirit. Nearly all of them have a peculiar light brown colour; and some were entirely coated with a thin layer of the peroxide of manganese so abundant in the deep sea, just as was the dead Corallium obtained by us in very large quantities off the Canary Islands.[3] In the Natural History Museum at the Jardin des Plantes is a similar specimen of *Corallium rubrum*, coated with a black substance, evidently manganese. It is from the Mediterranean, and labelled "Corail norici dans la vase," "Corail mort des pecheurs."

Studer's *Lophohelia tubulosa* is evidently not distinct from the present species.

Station 135, off Tristan da Cunha. 1000 fathoms.
Station 145, off the Prince Edward Islands, South Indian Ocean. 310 fathoms.
Station 344, off Ascension Island. 420 fathoms.
Abundance of the coral was obtained at all the above localities.

[1] Pourtalès, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., Harvard, vol. v. No. 9, Corals, pl. i. figs. 1–3.
[2] Monatsbericht der K. Preuss. Akad. der Wiss., Nov. 1877, s. 632.
[3] Sir C. Wyville Thomson, The Atlantic, London, 1877, vol. i. p. 173.