

13. *Fungia tenuidens*, n. sp. (Pl. VI. figs. 1-1a).

Corallum irregularly elongated, rather thin, convex above, markedly trough-shaped below; the central portion more or less flattened, solid, and seldom or inconspicuously perforated, covered by distinctly radiated and sharply spinulose costæ which become very distinct at the inclined margin. The growth at the margin more or less irregular, owing to the elongation and approximation of certain septa and the partial or complete suppression of others between them, with or without the union of the adjacent ones. Septa of very many cycles, very unequal in length, closely crowded and even, extremely thin and delicate, very flexuous, with their sides strongly granulated, especially in the smaller ones, and marked above by very minute serrations. The tentacular teeth very exsert and distinct, developed even in the last cycle, very thin, scarcely or not at all thicker than the septa, more or less rounded. Fossa elongated, rather narrow and deep; columella rudimentary.

A single small specimen, which is from about 8 to 9 cm. long, of this very distinct form was obtained. It must be placed close to *Fungia conferta*, Verrill. The very thin, delicate and flexuous septa, the very exsert and distinct but scarcely or not at all thickened tentacular teeth, the very irregular outline of the corallum, due to the unequal elongation of certain septa and the diminution or suppression of those between them, give a striking appearance to this species.

Locality.—Ternate, Moluccas.

Genus 2. *Halomitra*, Dana.

Halomitra, Dana, Zoophytes, p. 341.

This genus has lately been extended by Professor Duncan to include *Podabacia* of Milne-Edwards and Haime,¹ since, on the authority of those authors, it is stated that *Halomitra* differs from *Podabacia* simply in its general form, and in its unattached condition:² characters which, as Professor Duncan points out, are not sufficient for generic separation. Between *Halomitra pileus*, Dana, and *Podabacia crustacea*, however, there exist very important and striking differences apart from the simple difference in their habit, differences which entitle them to generic separation, and which were confounded by Milne-Edwards and Haime, owing to the fact that under the *Fungia pileus*, Lamarck (and under the *Halomitra pileus* of Milne-Edwards and Haime), were included two correspondingly distinct, but similarly-shaped, types of structure.

The genus *Halomitra*, as defined by Dana, is certainly a well-characterised one; and an essential part of the definition, which separates the genus from *Podabacia*, is derived from the nature of the wall and costæ. In the definition given by Dana, the under surface is tersely stated to be "*stoutly and very crowdedly radiately echinate*," that is, the wall is solid and but very slightly perforated, while the costæ form distinct,

¹ *Journ. Linn. Soc. Lond. (Zool.)*, vol. xvii. p. 155.

² *Cor.*, iii. p. 20.