

forcipiform, and well spaced. There are one or two larger ones on each adambulacral plate within the furrow, and groups of these larger ones on the plates which form the mouth-angle. The tube-feet are in four rather crowded rows. The colour in life is dark-grey above, sometimes variegated with brown, and white beneath.

*Hab.* On the roots of *Lessonia*, Ohiro Bay and Lyall Bay. Type specimens are in the Canterbury Museum, Christchurch.

I have given outline figures of a few specimens (Pl. XII., figs. 15 to 23), which are reduced to half the natural size: from these it will be seen that the rays are very irregular in size, especially in young individuals, and, as in *Stichaster insignis*, they usually form two groups—a group of small rays on one side of the disc and a group of larger ones on the opposite side. This seems to indicate that natural division (fission), which is a characteristic of *S. insignis*, also obtains in this species. My series of specimens is, however, very small at present, but the species is not uncommon near Wellington, and I hope to collect more specimens shortly, so as to be able to settle definitely this interesting point.

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ART. XXI.—*Descriptions of Two New Gymnoblasic Hydroids.*

By H. FARQUHAR.

[Read before the Wellington Philosophical Society, 20th February, 1895.]

Plate XIII. (in Part).

**Coryne tenella**, n. sp. Plate XIII., fig. 5.

Hydrocaulus simple or sparingly branched, slender, lax, pale horn-colour, attaining a height of about 15mm., arising from a creeping filiform stolon. The stems are smooth except at the base, where there are a few annulations, and the branches are sometimes slightly corrugated immediately above their origin. Hydranths elongate, cylindrical, sometimes slightly clavate, pellucid-white, with frequently a yellowish-brown tinge. Tentacles pellucid-white, with small spherical knobs, twenty-five to thirty in number, a verticil of four or five round the mouth, and another lower down; the rest scattered and frequently crowded on the lower part of the hydranth, sometimes with an indistinct tendency to a verticillate arrangement. Gonophores oval, sessile, in a cluster of three to five on the lower part of the hydranth among the tentacles.

*Hab.* Wellington Harbour. On the roots and stems of *Macrocystis pyrifera*. Type specimens in the Canterbury Museum, Christchurch.

**Tubiclava rubra**, n. sp. Plate XIII., fig. 6.

Hydrocaulus slender, lax, sparingly branched, attaining a height of about 12mm., arising from a creeping filiform stolon. Hydranths fusiform, very contractile, deep vermilion. Tentacles somewhat scattered, forming three irregular verticils, the lower ones rather smaller than the others, pellucid-white, contractile. Perisarc smooth or slightly annulated below, colourless and transparent, usually invested by minute plants and animals. The cœnosarc in the stems and stolon is of a light-reddish colour. Gonophores sessile, red, developed on separate stems, three or four on the summit of a stem.

*Hab.* Wellington Harbour. Abundant on the roots and stems of *Macrocystis pyrifera*. Type specimens in the Canterbury Museum, Christchurch.

Very few New Zealand gymnoblasic hydroids have been described. I know of only three other species—viz., *Tubularia attenuoides*, Coughtrey (Trans. N.Z. Inst., vol. viii., p. 302, 1875), from Dunedin; *Eudendrium novæ-zelandiæ*, Marktanner-Turneretscher (Annal. d. k.-k. Naturhist. Hofmuseums, band v., p. 201, 1890), from Auckland; and a species of the freshwater genus *Cordylophora* found by Mr. A. Hamilton in the Esk River, near Napier (N.Z. Journal of Science, vol. i., p. 419, 1883), which Mr. Hamilton doubtfully identified as the European form *C. lacustris*, quoting Professor Allman's description of the genus. It is more likely to be identical with the Australian species, *C. whiteleggin*, v. Lendenfeld (Zool. Jahrbücher, bd. ii., p. 97, 1886). When rediscovered, however, it will probably prove to be distinct from both the European and Australian forms.

The fact that so few species have been recorded does not by any means indicate that our hydroid fauna is poor and deficient in this group, but only that they have been neglected by New Zealand naturalists. Mr. H. B. Kirk informs me that he has found a species at Kau Bay, on the south side of the Wellington Harbour, perhaps the *Coryne* described above. I have myself collected specimens of a very beautiful *Tubularia* on the roots of *Lessonia*, at Ohiro Bay, near Wellington, which I believe is distinct from Dr. Coughtrey's species, and I have seen the polypidoms of several other species. No doubt a careful and systematic search would reveal many new and interesting forms.