

*Holothuria minax*, n. sp. (Pl. VIII. fig. 8).

Body elongated, slightly flattened on the ventral surface and furrowed along its middle. Tentacles eighteen. Anus roundish. Ventral surface with pedicels. Dorsal surface with small conical papillæ, a number of those situated along the sides of the body and in the neighbourhood of the dorsal ambulacra being placed on low warts with a broad base. The papillæ at the mouth and anus are slightly larger. Deposits of two kinds—tables with the rounded disk perforated by a central large opening and a series of smaller peripheral holes, and bearing a short spire composed of four rods and one transverse beam, and terminating in about twenty teeth or spines; and oval, regular or asymmetrical smooth buttons with six to ten (or more) holes. Pedicels strengthened by more or less symmetrically bilateral, perforated rods. Papillæ with perforated rods commonly of a more irregular shape. Colour in alcohol, light yellowish-brown; the ventral surface and the warts lighter. Length in contracted state about 160 mm., but probably much greater when the body is fully extended.

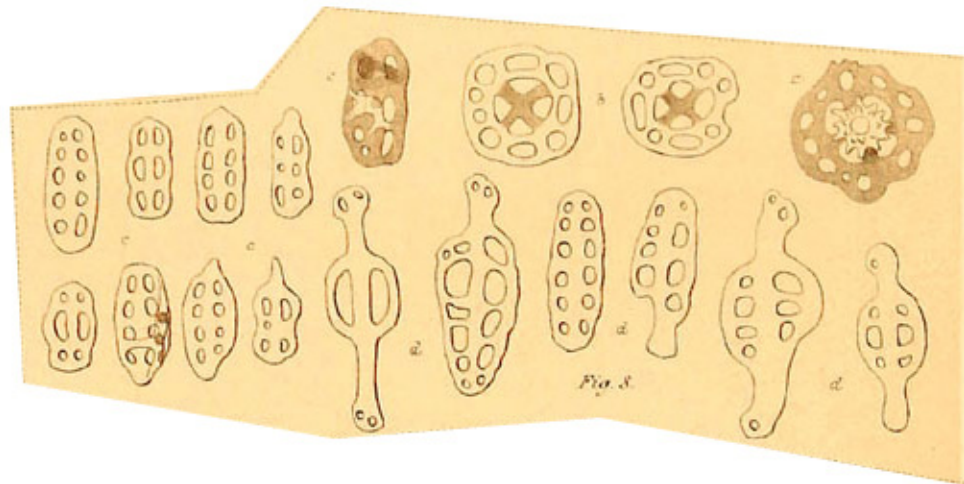
*Habitat*.—Japan; depth, 8 to 14 fathoms; one specimen.

Like many other Holothurians kept in alcohol, the body is very much contracted and wrinkled, its true size and shape being almost impossible to discern. For this reason I cannot state whether the pedicels are arranged in three longitudinal series or distributed without order. Even the position of the dorsal warts and papillæ is not fully known, though I have observed that the warts which carry papillæ are situated mainly on or in the neighbourhood of the dorsal ambulacra as well as on the sides of the body. Numerous papillæ are situated between the warts on the ambulacra as well as interambulacra. The warts are always very low though with a broad base. The calcareous ring is of the usual form, almost like that in *Holothuria decorata*, von Marenzeller. A single Polian vesicle, 27 mm. long, is present. On the left side of the dorsal mesentery is a single madreporic canal, on the right side three, all with the free ends enlarged and pear-shaped.

The tables (Pl. VIII. fig. 8, *a*, *b*) as well as the buttons (Pl. VIII. fig. 8, *c*) closely resemble those in the above-named species described by von Marenzeller, but I never found more than one transverse beam in the spire of the tables, while *Holothuria decorata* has tables partly with a shorter spire and one transverse beam and partly with a larger spire and as many as three beams. The disks of the tables, which measure about 0·08 mm. in diameter, usually possess a simple series of holes surrounding the central large hole, and I only once observed a disk with more holes round the margin. The buttons sometimes present themselves under a more unusual shape as will be seen from the figures; the larger ones have a length of 0·1 mm. The pedicels carry, besides the perforated rods (Pl. VIII. fig. 8, *d*), more or less completely developed tables and buttons.

There is no doubt that the animal in question is related to *Holothuria decorata* as well as to *Holothuria monacaria*, Lesson, and, though I cannot be sure of the position of the pedicels and processes, it probably belongs to *Stichopodes* of Semper.

PLATE VIII.



8, HOLOTHURIA MINAX, n. sp.

Fig. 8. *Holothuria minax*, n. sp. *a*, upper view of a table; *b*, disks of the tables, seen from the under surface; *c*, buttons; *d*, supporting rods from the pedicels.