

of a blackish hue distributed among the papillæ on the dorsal and lateral surfaces; and the whole of this area, including the papillæ, thickly sprinkled with minute orange specks; colour of oral tentacula light buff. Attaining to a length, when extended, of three or four feet, with a diameter of four or five inches. Usually collected, by diving, in deep water on the more remote reefs. Of considerable commercial value.

2. Green Prickly-fish, *Stichopus chloronotus* (Chromo XII., Fig. 3).—Body in extension elongate, sub-quadrate, its surface beset with prominent simple sharp-pointed conical papillæ; ground colour clear bottle-green throughout, the extreme tips of the papillæ orange or scarlet; the expanded tentacles ash-grey or a lighter tint of the body-colour. Usual length, when extended, nine to twelve inches. Occurs abundantly on the grassy (*Zostera*) flats adjoining the coral-reefs from Torres Strait to the central Barrier district. No commercial use, dissolving into a glutinous mass within a few hours after removal from the water.

3. Yellow Prickly-fish, *Stichopus lutca*, n.sp.—Body in extension elongate-ovate, slightly sub-quadrate; short, sharp-pointed, conical papillæ sparsely scattered throughout the surface of the integument, which is also slightly corrugated; colour of the upper surface of the body golden- or mustard-yellow, the papillæ usually of a blue-black hue; the under surface of the body bright yellow, the three distinct rows of pedicels slate-grey; the expanded tentacles light-brown. Length of extended body, twelve to fourteen inches. Tolerably plentiful throughout the Barrier district. Of little or no commercial value, its substance rapidly disintegrating.

GENUS ACTINOPYGA.

Integument enclosing minute calcareous spicules of definite patterns; vent pentagonal, associated with five, externally conspicuous, calcareous ossicles.

4. Stone-fish, *Actinopyga lecanora*.—Body in extension simply ovate or elongate, usually broadest anteriorly; its surface smooth; the general ground-colour cream or stone-colour, with the exception of, more usually, a few irregularly scattered patches of minute, closely approximated, dark brown speckles, certain of which are almost invariably developed in a circle round, but at a little distance from, the ventral aperture; extended tentacles and pedicels cream-colour or light brown. Length, twelve to sixteen inches. Not common. Of but little commercial value.

5. Ordinary or Sand Red-fish, *Actinopyga obesa* (Chromo XII., Figs. 1 and 2).—Body in extension elongate subcylindrical, somewhat depressed; when contracted the entire dorsal surface coarsely corrugated transversely, fine reticulating lines uniting the transverse rugæ; locomotive or ventral acetabula forming three distinct rows; slender, tactile, pedicels thickly developed throughout the dorsal surface of the body; vent pentagonal, with five distinct anal ossicles; ground colour deep golden-brown, oral tentacles somewhat lighter; under surface yellowish-brown. Length, when extended, fifteen to twenty-four inches. Habitat: Reefs exposed at spring-tides throughout the Barrier district, not concealing itself within rock crevices. One of