

*Stichopus sordidus*, n. sp. (Pl. VIII. fig. 3).

Tentacles twenty. The ventral pedicels not very obviously arranged in three series, the middle one broader than the lateral. A simple row of rather large conical processes present along each side of the body. Also larger and smaller processes or papillæ on the dorsal ambulacra, and some smaller ones spread over the interambulacra. Processes or papillæ not crowded, excepting round the mouth, where they form a crown. Deposits—tables alone, composed of a rounded or quadrangular, perforated disk with smooth margin and a spire of four rods and a single transverse beam. Spire of the tables terminating in about sixteen teeth. Dorsal papilla strengthened by numerous, curved, smooth, or slightly spinous rods; pedicels supported by a few rather large, irregularly bilateral, perforated plates. Colour in alcohol, dark brown, almost black, inclining to violet. Length in contracted state, 80 to 90 mm.

*Habitat*.—Station 167A, June 27, 1874; lat. 41° 4' S., long. 174° 19' E.; Queen Charlotte Sound, near Long Island (New Zealand); depth, 10 fathoms; mud; eight very contracted specimens.

All the specimens are very contracted and wrinkled, their true shape and size being unrecognisable. For the same reason, the position of the dorsal ambulacral appendages is not fully clear. Excepting the simple row of conical large prominences along each side of the body, which is always well defined, there seems generally to be an alternating row of equally large processes along each dorsal ambulacrum, and, besides, some smaller papillæ scattered not only on the ambulacra, but also on the interambulacra, where, however, they seem to be very rare. Consequently it appears that the processes and papillæ are principally collected on the two dorsal ambulacra as well as along the sides of the body. The larger processes have a length of about 8 mm. and a breadth at the base of 5 or 6 mm.

The calcareous ring is of the usual form, the radial pieces considerably larger, almost quadrangular and slightly incised posteriorly. A single madreporic canal and Polian vesicle are present. All the individuals have lost their viscera, excepting one which has a thin bundle of long, very narrow and slender genital tubes, several times branched, on each side of the dorsal mesentery.

Only one kind of deposit seems to be present, viz., tables (Pl. VIII. fig. 3, *a*, *b*, *c*); but it must be noted that I have also found a few oval buttons of the well known form with

six holes, though there seems to be but little doubt, that these belong to another animal and have adhered to the skin of the individuals examined by me. The diameter of the disks is about 0·05 mm., and the spire attains a height of about 0·04 mm. The fenestrated, irregularly bilateral plates (Pl. VIII. fig. 3, *d*) of the pedicels are rather large. So far as I can find out, this form brought home by the Challenger Expedition cannot be referred to any previously known species, though it doubtless bears some resemblance in external organisation to *Stichopus armatus*, Selenka, and *Stichopus japonica*, Selenka.

PLATE VIII.



Fig. 3. *Stichopus sordidus*, n. sp. *a*, spire of a table, seen from above; *b*, side view of a table; *c*, disks of the tables, seen from the under surface; *d*, fenestrated plate from the pedicels.