

A NEW SPECIES OF *BONELLIA* FROM PORT JACKSON.

BY

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(Plates xv.-xvi.)

The earliest record of *Bonellia* in the South Pacific is that by Professor Haswell who, in 1885, reported what he believed to be *B. viridis* from Neutral Bay, Port Jackson; noting at the same time that instead of inhabiting narrow fissures in rocks it was found under small stones just above the limit of low water. Anatomically his specimens were said to be identical with *B. viridis*, except with regard to the reproductive organs which, however, were immature.

Whitelegge¹ reported *B. viridis* from another locality in Port Jackson, viz., Mosman Bay, obtaining his specimen under a stone during a low tide.

Shipley² recorded the species from the Loyalty Islands, and from the D'Entrecasteaux Group.

In considering the remarkable known distribution of this species, viz., Mediterranean, North Sea and South Pacific, Sluiter³ expressed the opinion that a detailed examination of specimens from the last named locality would show them to be distinct from the European form. In the case of the Sydney material we have found this view to be justified. The specimens are not *B. viridis*, but closely resemble *B. minor*. Full descriptions of the latter are not at our disposal, but even from the meagre accounts that we have, it is clear that the two species are not identical. If they had proved to be so, then, taking into account the known distribution of *B. minor* (viz., the Mediterranean) the occurrence would have been just as remarkable as if they had proved to be *B. viridis*. It should be stated, however, that Ikeda⁴ has reported *B. minor* from Japan, noting at the same time certain differences in the anal vesicles, which again differ from those of the Australian forms here described.

We desire to express our indebtedness to the Director of the Australian Museum, Sydney, for allowing us to re-examine Mr. Whitelegge's specimen; and to Professors W. A. Haswell, F.R.S., and S. J. Johnston of the Sydney University for the opportunity to use Professor Haswell's original material.

¹ Whitelegge—Proc. Roy. Soc. N.S.Wales, xxiii., 1889, pp. 163-323.

² Shipley in Willey's Zoolog. Results, iii., 1899, pp. 335-353.

³ Sluiter—Siboga Expeditie, Monogr. 25 (Gephyrea), 1902.

⁴ Ikeda—Journ. Coll. Sci. Univ. Tokyo, xx., 1904, pp. 72-73.