

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES TO THE REPORT ON SPONGES
FROM THE COASTAL BEACHES OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

By THOMAS WHITELEGGE, Zoologist.

A CONSIDERABLE time after the Report was printed off, Professor Arthur Dendy offered to the Trustees of the Australian Museum the loan of a large collection of fragments of sponges, from which sections might be obtained. The specimens were selected and labelled by R. Kirkpatrick, of the British Museum, from examples acquired by that institution from Dr. R. von Lendenfeld. The collection embraces 478 specimens, representing 462 species. All—except about six—are from Australasian waters. A large percentage of the examples are species described as new by Dr. R. von Lendenfeld; the rest consist of species identified by him, and others which bear what I presume are manuscript names. These fragments add very largely to the Museum collection, and if the species prove valid, to the known fauna of New South Wales. By this donation, the Museum gains five species enumerated in the "Catalogue of Sponges," which have hitherto been wanting in the collection (two of these are therein described as new) and which practically complete the specimens as published in the Catalogue. Of the 295 species and varieties described in the latter work, 156 are represented in this collection. Some of these are evidently bits of the types now on exhibition in the Invertebrate Gallery.

In 1887, Dr. R. von Lendenfeld published a paper in the *Zoologische Jahrbücher*, under the title of "Die chalineen des Australischen Gebietes."¹ In this paper 183 species and varieties are described; 144 of these are represented in the collection presented by Professor Dendy.

It is highly probable that the greater part of these fragments are portions of the types; the localities in nearly every instance agree with the habitat given at the end of each description. Eight examples bear the word "type" on the label; these are, however, mostly calcareous sponges.

This extremely valuable collection affords material which explains some of the ill-defined species in the Lendenfeldian collection, and also adds largely to the number of uncertainties. With the latter I hope to deal in the near future, and the former are herein

¹ Lendenfeld—*Zool. Jahrb.*, Bd. ii., 1887, pp. 723-828.