

ART. XLI.—On *Flabellum rugulosum*, Tenison-Woods.

By HENRY SUTER.

[Read before the Wellington Philosophical Society, 4th October, 1905.]

Flabellum rugulosum, Tenison-Woods, "Palæontology of New Zealand," part iv, "Corals and Bryozoa of the Neozoic Period in New Zealand," 1880, p. 12, figs. 8, a, b

Captain J. Bollons, of the Government steamer "Hinemoa," dredged living specimens of this fine coral in 50 fathoms between Cuvier and Mokohinau Islands, and very kindly presented me a specimen. Unfortunately, the animal had already been removed, but Captain Bollons told me that it was beautifully banded with white and scarlet. My example agrees in every particular with specimens from the Pliocene of Wanganui, but it is larger than any I have seen. Altitude, 44 mm. ; axis, 60 mm. ; min. axis, 20 mm.

This interesting addition brings the number of New Zealand species of the genus up to two, *F. rubrum*, Q. and G., being the other species. This latter is not uncommon on rocks at low-water mark in Hauraki Gulf, and is very conspicuous by its scarlet animal. Unfortunately, in alcohol the colour is completely lost.

ART. XLII.—Notes on Insect Swarms on Mountain-tops in New Zealand.

By G. V. HUDSON, F.E.S

[Read before the Wellington Philosophical Society, 2nd August, 1905.]

At a recent meeting of the Entomological Society of London, the president, Professor Poulton, F.R.S., read a short paper entitled "A Possible Explanation of Insect Swarms on Mountain-tops," in which he suggested as probable that "certain species of insects with powerful flight, after reaching the imaginal state, have the instinct to seek conspicuous isolated features in the landscape ; that in others with smaller powers or unable to fly the instinct is merely to ascend. The effect of both tendencies is to reduce the area over which the sexes have to find each other. A somewhat deferred maturity, and the gradual collection of scattered individuals into swarms, is probably associated with the instinct in many cases, facilitating still