

*Operculinæ* of tropical seas, and *Biloculinæ* and *Triloculinæ* far exceeding in dimensions the littoral forms of British shores; and with these were associated *Cristellarix* of no less remarkable size, presenting every gradation from an almost rectilinear to the nautiloid form, and having the animal body in so perfect a state as to enable it to be completely isolated by the solution of the shell in dilute acid."

Sponges were extremely abundant, but they were restricted to only a small number of species; all of them with one form or another of the curious anchoring habit. Among the Hexactinellidæ *Holtenia* was the most striking and the most abundant form. *Hyalonema* was also common; but we got few perfect specimens with the sponge and glass-rope in connection. The conical sponge heads were very numerous; they seemed to have been torn off by the edge of the dredge, the rope remaining in the mud, and the ropes were frequently brought up without the sponge. Almost all the ropes were encrusted with the constant 'commensal' of *Hyalonema*, *Palythoa fatua*. Very young examples of *Hyalonema*, with the whisp from 5 mm. to 20 mm. long, had usually no *Palythoa* on them; but when they had attained above the latter dimensions in almost every case one could see the first polyp of the *Palythoa* making its appearance as a small bud, and its pink-encrusting cœnosarc spreading round it. By far the most common sponge in the chalk-mud is the pretty little hemispherical corticate form *Tisiphonia agariciformis*. This species, though differing from it greatly in appearance and habit, seems to be closely allied to a strong, heavy