

by calcareous cement, so that the sand-grains show out, dark and conspicuous, scattered on the surface of the white shell. Miliolines are abundant, and the specimens of *Cornuspira* and *Biloculina* are greatly larger than anything which has been hitherto met with in temperate regions, recalling the tropical forms which abound among the Pacific Islands.

In the cold area, and in the paths of cold currents, foraminifera with sandy tests are more numerous; some of those of the genera *Astrorhiza*, *Lituola*, and *Botellina* are gigantic—large examples 30 mm. long by 8 mm. in diameter.

The few hauls of the dredge which we have already had in deep water have been enough to teach us that our knowledge of sponges is in its infancy,—that those which we have collected from shallow water along our shores, and even those few which have been brought up from deep water on fishing lines, and have surprised us by the beauty of their forms and the delicacy of their lustre, are the mere margin and remnant of a wonderfully diversified sponge-fauna which appears to extend in endless variety over the whole of the bottom of the sea. I cannot attempt here more than a mere outline of the general character of the additions which have been made to our knowledge of this group. The sponges of the 'Porcupine' Expedition are now in the hands of Mr. Henry Carter, F.R.S., for description; and an excellent sketch of the sponge-fauna of the deep Atlantic, bringing information on certain groups up to a late date, has been published by the best authority we have on sponges, Professor Oscar Schmidt of Gratz.