

and he referred the group to the Polyzoa. When Mr. Toulmin Smith studied the *Ventriculites*, the *Hexactinellidæ*—the sponges with six-rayed meshes or spicules—were practically unknown, though there

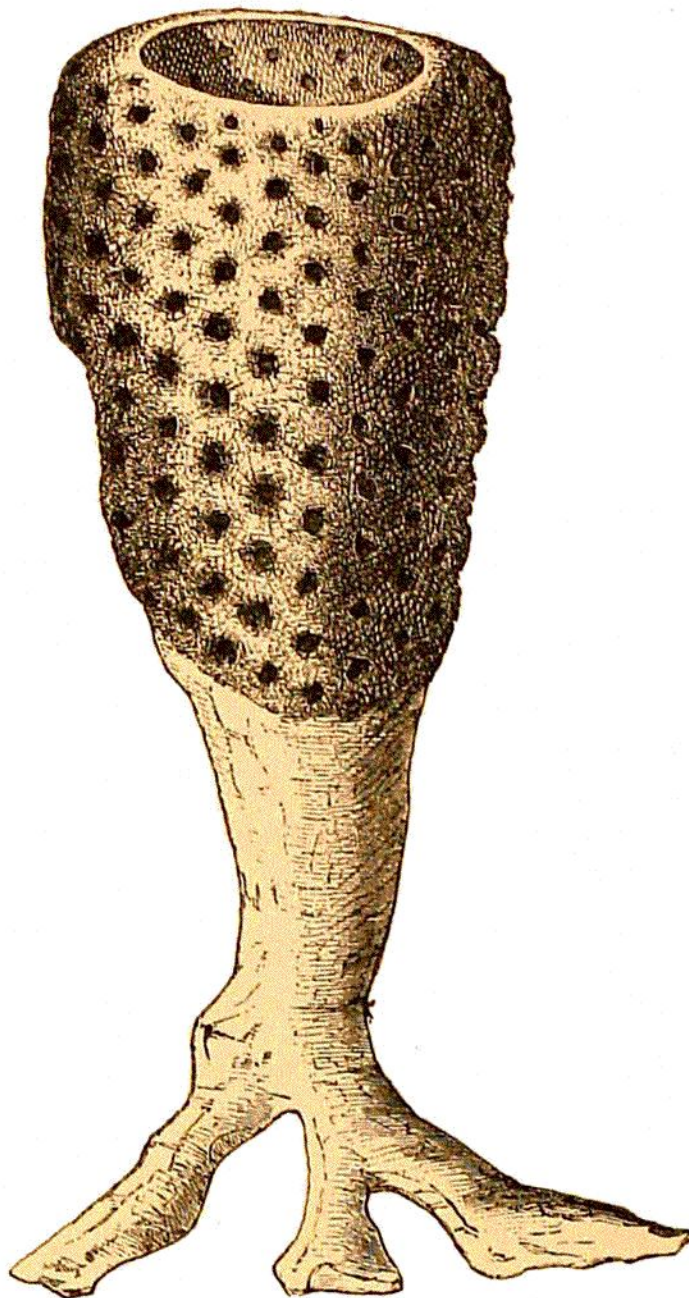


FIG. 80.—*Ventriculites simplex*, TOULMIN SMITH. Once and a half the natural size.

were already a few examples in museums. One of the first results of deep-sea dredging was the discovery that the chalk-mud of the deep sea is in many places literally crowded with these; and when we compare