

ynx shows six to seven folds, ending in a chitinous border. The mouth is a round aperture, beset with small cuticular papillæ. The perisom is divided into four muscular bands, the surface layer showing a tissue of square meshes, in each of which there are four to five sense-bodies. For the reception of this singular species Dr. von Willemoes-Suhm proposed to establish the genus *Leioderma*, which will represent a family intermediate between the sipunculids and the priapulids: Pharynx attached to the body-wall by four retractors; no tentacles, no proboscis, and no pharyngeal teeth; excretory opening in the anterior part of the body near the mouth.

On the 18th we sounded at 9 A.M., lat. $25^{\circ} 45' N.$, long. $20^{\circ} 12' W.$, 160 miles S.W. of the island of Ferro, and 50 miles to the west of the station of the day before, in 1525 fathoms. The "Hydra" tube brought up no bottom, and we sounded again with a depth of 1520 fathoms, and again no bottom. It thus seemed that we had got upon hard ground; and as the sounding of the following day gave 2220 at a distance of only 19 miles, we had evidently struck the top of a steep rise. The dredge was lowered at 10 A.M. with 2220 fathoms of line, and 2 cwt. leads 300 fathoms before the dredge. At 5.30 P.M. the dredge was hauled up, and contained a few small pieces of stone resembling the volcanic rocks of the Canary Islands, and some large bases of attachment and branches of the calcareous axis of an alcyonarian polyp allied to *Isis*. Some of the larger stumps were nearly an inch in diameter; the central portion very compact, and of a pure white color; the surface longitudinally grooved, and of a glossy black. The pieces of the base of the coral which had been torn off by the dredge were in one or two cases several inches across, and upward of an inch thick, forming a thick crust from which the branches of the coral sprung. The crust was black on the surface, showing a fine, regular granulation; and a fracture through the crust was of a uniform dark-brown color and semi-crystalline.