

the bottom, species occur which have been detected neither on the surface nor at 1000 fathoms, the greatest depth at which the tow-net has yet been systematically used; and specimens taken near the bottom of species which occur on or near the surface give us the impression of being generally larger and better developed. The results from the tow-net are not so

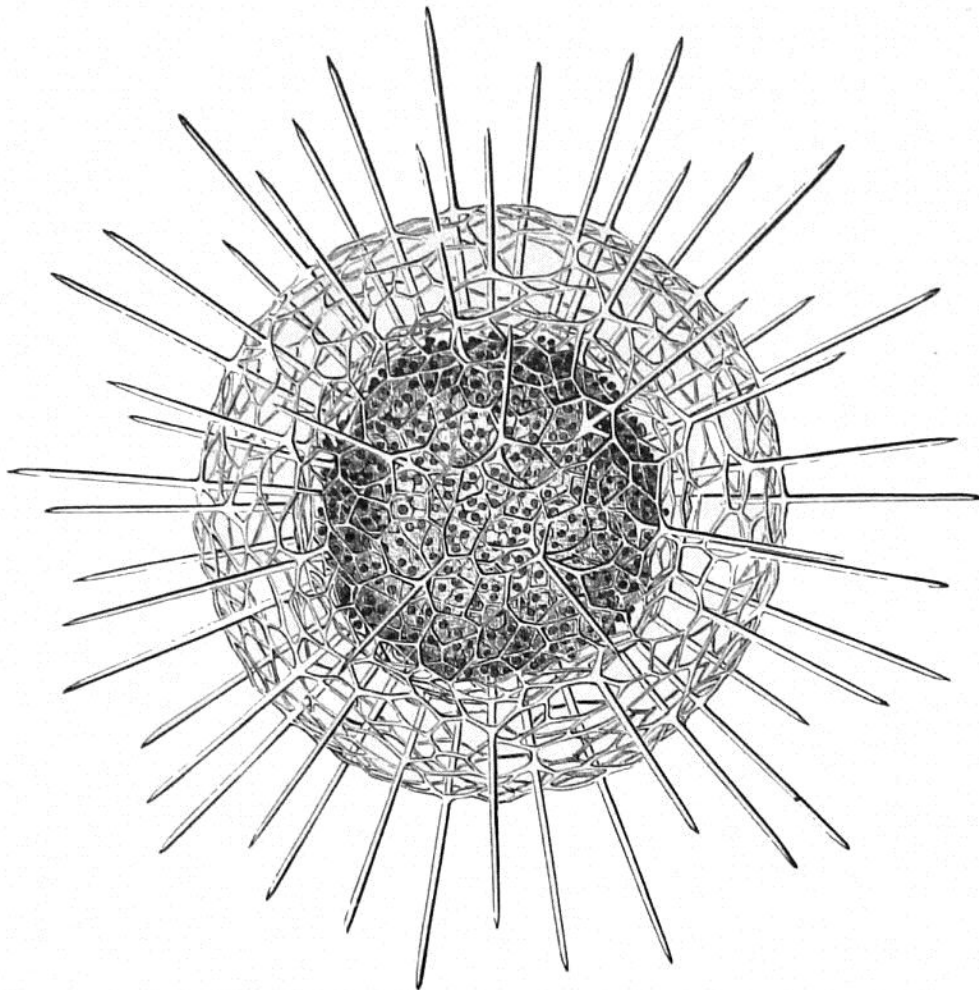


FIG. 54.—*Haliomma* (sp. n.). From the surface. Two hundred times the natural size.

directly satisfactory as those from the trawl or dredge, which usually brings up animals which we know, from their nature, must have lived on the bottom, and it requires a little consideration to arrive at their precise value. We have not yet contrived a tow-net which can be sent down closed, which will open its mouth when it reaches a certain depth, and close it again after a certain lapse of time; although there is little doubt that such a net might be made easily enough. At pres-