

appears to be the only new group of higher than generic value which has come to light during the *Challenger* expedition.

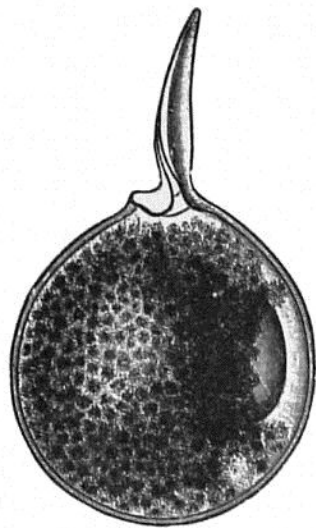


FIG. 58. — *Challengeria*.
Four hundred times the
natural size.

As a rule, these forms are extremely minute, although some of them approach in size the smaller Radiolarians. They consist usually of a single chamber of silica, varying greatly in form, sometimes triangular, sometimes lenticular, and frequently nearly globular or flask-shaped; with a single opening, usually guarded by a beautifully formed and frequently highly ornamented lip. The surface of the shell is usually richly sculptured, a favorite style of ornament being a series of closely apposed and symmetrically arranged circular pits sunk deep in the siliceous wall, their inner walls refracting the light, and giving the surface of the whole a peculiar pearly lustre. The contents of the shell consist of a mass of granular sarcode, with one or more large, well-defined

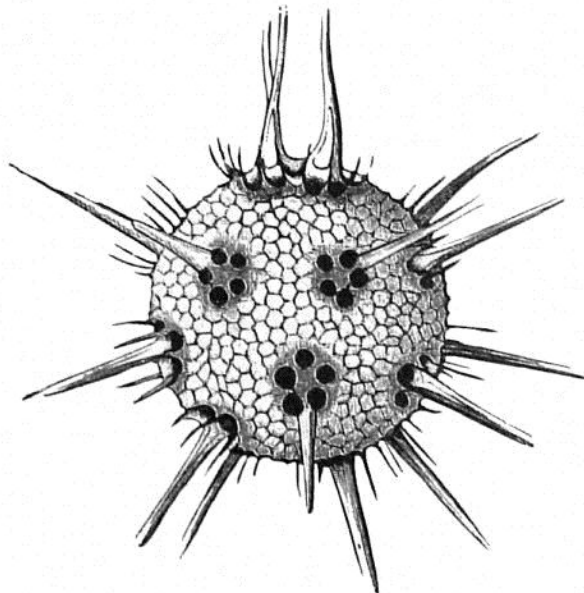


FIG. 59.—Forms of the *Challengerida*.

granular nuclei, which color deeply with carmine; and a number of dark-brown, sometimes nearly black, rounded compound granular masses. It is singular that these deeply pigmented