

methods (often newly devised for this special purpose) and instruments was it possible to arrive at a clear understanding as to the minute structure of the indifferently preserved specimens. Obviously just those portions have caused the most trouble which were the worst preserved, or only came to hand in small fragments.

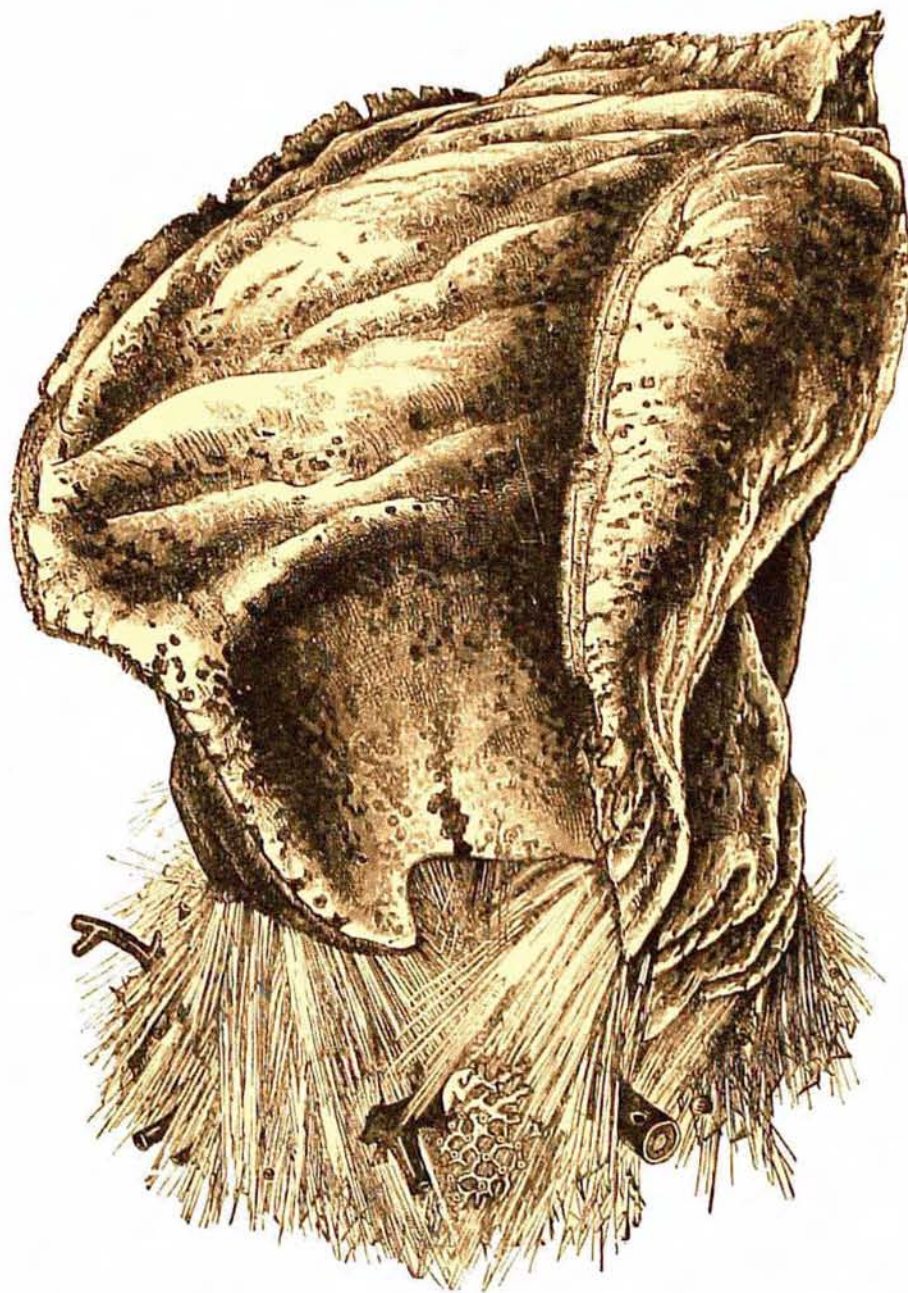


FIG. 161.—*Poliopogon amadou*, Wyv. Thoms., a representative of the Hyalonematidæ. One-third the natural size. Attached to branches of *Corallium* (see p. 125).

“As a rule small pieces selected from various regions of the sponge were first soaked for some time in concentrated hydrochloric acid and then boiled in it for a few minutes, washed out with water and alcohol, dehydrated by alcohol of increasing strength, cleared by oil of cloves, and finally after teasing and careful spreading out mounted in Canada balsam. In this manner the isolated siliceous spicules and the small fragments of con-