

*Stylorrhiza* extends as far south as Kerguelen Island, where it is abundant. The Renieridæ amount to about thirty species, of which five are new. The Chalinidæ comprise about twenty species, but are not as a whole in a very satisfactory state of preservation; *Pachychalina*, with three new species, is the only genus of much interest. The Ectyonidæ are remarkably few in number.

"The Axinellidæ are, after the Desmacidinidæ, of the greatest interest. For a species from near Bahia having the erect slender digitate habit of the European species of *Raspailia*, but distinguished by remarkably elongate dermal spicules, blunt at one end and terminating at the other in three short and scarcely divergent points, and occurring in groups, a new genus is necessary, which will be called *Thrinacophora*;<sup>1</sup> the main skeletal spicule is acerate, and the parenchyma contains bundles of slender acerate 'trichites'; it appears to stand to some extent between the Axinellidæ and Desmacidinidæ. Another species of similar habit approaches the curious discoid *Halicnemia patera* of the Shetland seas so closely in spiculation as to enforce very strongly the doctrine that external form must be only used with the greatest caution as a guide to affinity. About thirty species, of which fully one-third are undescribed, belong to the family.

"The Suberitidæ (excluding *Tethya*, which has been relegated to the Tetractinellida on the ground of its spiculation and skeletal arrangement) are surprisingly scanty, considering their abundance in both shallow and deep water in the North Atlantic area. They number about thirty species. Of the essentially bathybial forms, the range of *Trichostemma* (*Radiella*, Schmidt) is extended by the Challenger collection from the North Sea and equatorial Atlantic to the equatorial Indo-Pacific area, whence comes a new species. *Sceptrella* (*Latrunculia*, Bocage) is represented by two new species from the southern hemisphere, in one of which the outer end of the characteristic sceptre-like spicule is prolonged into a spike. *Bursulina muta*, Schmidt, which is closely related to *Polymastia brevis* of Bowerbank, extends to the North American Atlantic coast, *Thecaphora* to the Tristan da Cunha group of islands.

"*General Distribution.*—The most prolific localities are the neighbourhood of Bahia, the southern and western coasts of Patagonia (distinguished by the abundance of individuals of *Alebion* and *Tedania*), the Philippine Islands (a very varied fauna), and (as already shown by the investigations of the 'Alert') Torres Strait, also Kerguelen Island (especially Renieridæ and Suberitidæ). But little of striking novelty was obtained in the Atlantic; on the other hand, at the few (eight) very deep Stations in the Pacific which produced Monaxonida, the captures were almost exclusively new Desmacidines of the important genera *Chondrocladia* and *Cladorrhiza* mentioned above, almost every Station having a species peculiar to it.

"Some idea of the proportions in which *Monaxonida* occur at different depths may be

<sup>1</sup> θρίναξ, a three-pronged fork.