

polyps, and apparently trailed along the ground. As the basal portion of the main axis or stolon is imperfect, it must remain a matter for conjecture whether, as seems probable, it was attached or remained free and was only anchored in the mud. In either case it seems likely that by the contraction of the polyps, an irregular vermiform movement may have been given to the colony. To this strange form the name *Callozostrom mirabile* has been given. Fig. 235 shows two of the polyps, enlarged.

“Next in interest come a number of deep-sea forms, which will necessitate the emendation of Verrill’s recently established family Chrysogorgiidae. The species are noted for the elegance of their form, which varies from that of an elongated unbranched axis not thicker than a horse hair to a spirally branched axis forming quite

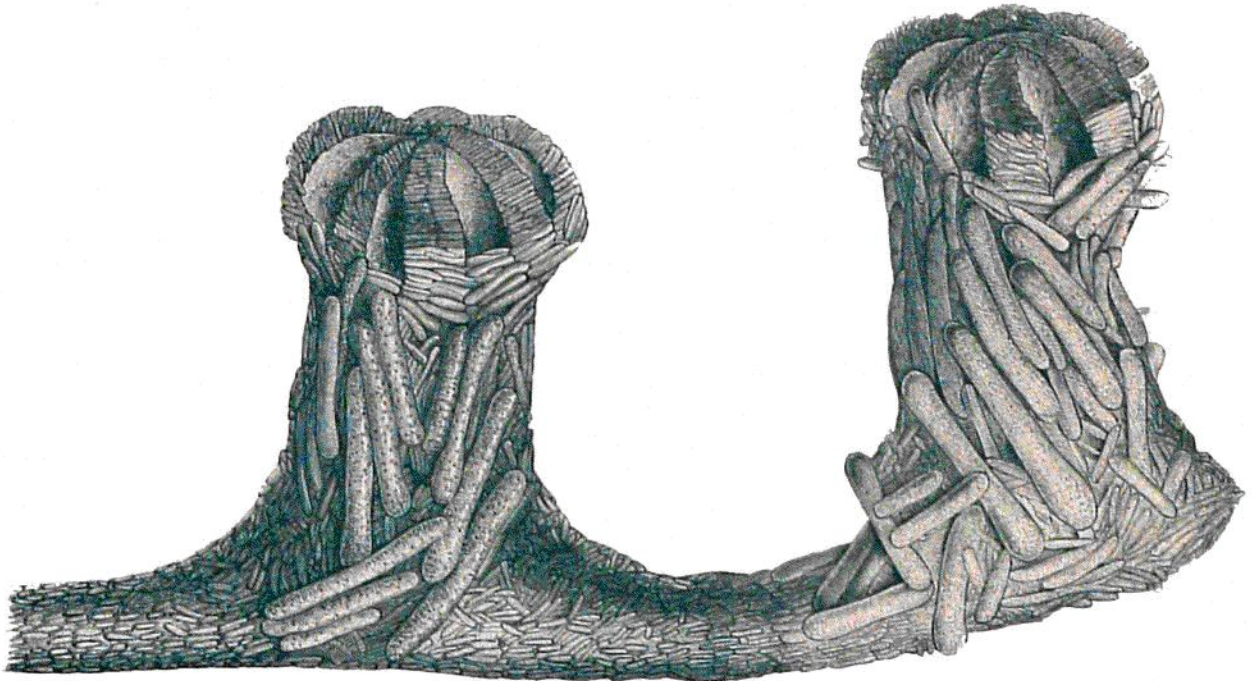


FIG. 236.—*Bathygorgia profunda*, n. gen. et sp.

a shrub-like mass. The axes when denuded are of a most brilliant metallic hue, and markedly iridescent. All the hitherto recorded species have been taken in deep water off the Atlantic shores of the West Indies or North America. Among the new forms in the Challenger collection may be mentioned *Strophogorgia challengerii*, n. gen. and sp., 600 fathoms (off Cape St. Vincent), and *Strophogorgia verrilli*, n. sp., from Station 235 (Japan), at a depth of 565 fathoms. Other species have been taken at Station 70 (Azores), depth 1675 fathoms, and Station 237 (Japan), depth 1875 fathoms. A form (*Bathygorgia profunda*) in which the axis was too feeble to hold the polyps in an erect position is shown in fig. 236; it was dredged at Station 241, from a depth of 2300 fathoms. The spicules are very massive, and are club-shaped. A number of new and interesting