one by Marenzeller. It is noteworthy that all the representatives of the family in the collection have cirriform branchiæ.

The remarkable tubes formed by *Nothria sombreriana* and *Nothria willemoesii* are most interesting, the former utilizing the long glassy spicules of vitreous sponges, the latter forming a finely rounded tube bristled with long spines secreted by the Annelid. Even where this power of forming special spines is absent, certain species obtain the necessary protection by attaching spines of Echinoderms to their tubes.

The general structure of the dental apparatus approaches *Eunice*, but its special features rightly point to a decided distinction both from the latter and *Lumbriconereis*, even on this ground alone. The large size of the anterior fang of the left great dental plate, in those pertaining to the type of *Nothria sombreriana*, is a striking feature. Those of the same genus without this structure approach *Hyalinæcia* or *Onuphis*. The right and left anterior "lateral" plates are more nearly in symmetry, and the unpaired left has become more or less a duplicate of the great left plate, having, however, a character of its own, and not extending beyond the front of the latter. Only a single accessory plate exists.

The occurrence of several instances of soft dental plates makes it probable that ecdysis takes place, or at least renewal in some form, unless the changes are pathological or post-mortem. Sometimes the entire apparatus, including the mandibles, is soft; in a few, only the upper teeth.

The Onuphididæ are distinguished from the foregoing family (Eunicidæ) by one very evident feature, viz., their bathymetrical distribution, for while the latter are often found between tide-marks, the Onuphididæ are characteristic of deep water, many of them ranging to very great depths. Even in our own seas they frequent the deeper waters of the coralline ground; while none in the present series occurs under 100 fathoms, indeed only one (*Nothria willemoesii*) was found at this depth. Two, again (*Nothria pycnobranchiata* and *Nothria ehlersi*), come from the great depth of 2225 fathoms.

The geographical range of the common species, viz., *Nothria conchylega* and *Hyalinæcia tubicola*, is considerable, the latter especially passing from the extreme north to the warmer seas, and again to the borders of the extreme south.

Nothria, Johnston.

Nothria conchylega, Sars.

Habitat.—Dredged at Station III. (off Cape St. Vincent), January 15, 1873; lat. 37° 2′ N., long. 9° 14′ W.; depth, 900 fathoms; surface temperature, 60°·0; sea-bottom,