

siliceous hairs, mixed with an occasional sponge-spicule or fragment of minute Crustacean. A few Radiolarians also occurred, and some seem to have been swallowed alive, or at least perfectly fresh.

Family AMPHARETIDÆ.

The members of this family, of which an excellent résumé has been given by Grube,¹ are perhaps more abundant in Arctic and Antarctic Seas than in the warmer oceans. But at the same time no group in the Challenger series is more thoroughly abyssal, at least where the numbers are considerable. Of the fifteen representatives two-thirds come from depths ranging from 1100 to 2750 fathoms, the remaining five being found between 75 and 470 fathoms. Several forms resembling the European pass to the American shores.

The representatives of the family are not numerous in the collections of former voyagers. Thus no species is mentioned by Schmarda. Kinberg again describes a single new Patagonian *Ampharete* (*Ampharete patagonica*), in addition to finding the common *Amphicteis gunneri*. Grube has two in the Philippine collection, and he describes a new genus, *Phyllocomus*, found at the Crozets and Kerguelen in the collection of the German ship "Gazelle." None occur in his Annulata Cœrstediana. Ehlers found three known species in that part of the "Porcupine" collection sent him for examination, and of these *Melinna cristata* descended to 1366 fathoms. In Marenzeller's series from Southern Japan two species, viz., the European *Amage auricula*, and Grube's Philippine species, *Amphicteis angustifolia*, occur.

In some cases it has not been thought necessary to go into detail in regard to external form where correspondence with the typical species is close. Only the diagnostic features have been mentioned. It is noteworthy in connection with the latter that the hooks both of the new species in this family and in the Terebellidæ have not been figured by Wirén in his paper on the Annelids of the Vega expedition.

The closeness with which the various species of *Amphicteis* approach each other is interesting. It is often doubtful whether these be mere varieties of *Amphicteis gunneri* or new forms. The same remark also applies to others of the family.

Most of the tubes are composed of very fine mud.

Ampharete, Malmgren.

Ampharete sombreroana, n. sp. (Pl. XXVIA. figs. 20, 21).

Habitat.—Dredged off Sombrero and St. Thomas, West Indies, in 470 and 390 fathoms.

¹ *Jahrb. d. Schles. Gesellsch.*, Breslau, April 6, 1870, sep. Abd., p. 8.