

the hypogastralia, but here and there even beneath the gastral membrane, I am still inclined to believe that here too they have been inserted on the tips of the hypogastral spicules.

Subfamily 3. TÆGERINÆ, F. E. Schulze (Pls. VII.–XI.).

The wall of the saccular or tubular body is perforated by apertures of various sizes, irregular in shape and arrangement. The lattice-like trabeculæ of the skeleton form for the most part an irregular network of partially cemented principal spicules. The outer end of the distal ray of each dagger-shaped hypodermal hexaster bears a floricome.

Genus 1. *Tægeria*, n. gen.

*Tægeria pulchra*, n. sp. (Pl. VII.; Pl. VIII.; Pl. XI. figs. 1–3).

In the neighbourhood of the Fiji Island, Kandavu (Station 174c, lat. 19° 7' 50" S., long. 178° 19' 35" E.), the trawl brought up, from a depth of 610 fathoms, on a bottom of coral mud, an elegant Euplectellid, which is figured on Pl. VII., after the restoration made by Wyville Thomson from a somewhat damaged specimen.

The thin-walled saccular body, which expands somewhat above the middle to a maximum diameter of 6.5 cm., exhibits a circular section, and has a length of 20 cm. Near the lower blind sack-like end there is a compact, tangled, somewhat lateral, basal prolongation which grows on the firm substratum. The upper extremity bears a circular opening, 3 cm. in diameter, which is surrounded by a somewhat firm margin, and overarched by a beautiful corona of long, curved, siliceous spicules which bend towards the centre. The lateral wall of the body is only from 2 to 3 mm. in thickness, and is penetrated by numerous irregularly scattered, approximately circular, tolerably large parietal apertures, varying from 3 to 4 mm. in diameter. These gaps are disposed at intervals of from 1 to 2 cm. in the median portion of the sponge, but are, above and below, somewhat more widely apart. Between these larger orifices, smaller round pores here and there occur, varying from 1 to 2 mm. in diameter. The numerous, light, roundish spots, however, which may be observed in the spirit specimen, and also in the figure on Pl. VII., occurring on the external surface between the above noted apertures, are neither holes nor pits from the outside, but represent pit-like hollowings on the inner surface which do indeed in many cases become, at a later period, artificially opened and converted into canals which pass completely through the wall.

The larger beams of the supporting skeletal framework, together with the delicate comitalia which surround them, are for the most part fused, by cementing matter