cruciate spicules. Sometimes, however, several spicules are fused together, and the origin of the connected siliceous framework of *Euplectella* is thus suggested. The shapes of the numerous free siliceous bodies recall those of *Hyalonema sieboldii*, Gray, from Japan."

In the same year (1868) Gray proposed to designate those sponges, which were in every way so different from the known species of *Hyalonema*, by the new generic title *Semperella*.[1] Moreover, to a specimen of the same species from the island of Ceram the name *Hyalothauma ludekingi* was given by Marshall and Herklots. Another sponge belonging to the same species, was sent from the Philippine Island of Zebu through Dr. A. Meyer to the British Museum, and was shortly described by Gray in 1872,[2] under the title *Meyerella claviformis*. Carter gave a detailed analysis of the same specimen,[3] and he changed the generic name *Meyerella* which had been given by Gray, into *Meyerina* because the former had already been applied to one of the *Lepidoptera*. In regard to the forms of the spicules, Carter regarded the new species as a combination of *Carteria*, *Hyalonema*, *Holtenia* and *Pheronema*.

Gray now erected [4] for this sponge a special family—the Meyerinidæ—and characterised it in the following manner:—" Sponge elongate, tubular, covered with a cobweb-like netted coat, with a circle of tufts of anchoring fibres at the base which extend more than half way through the length of the body, and then by repetition of a shorter kind, are continued on to the apex, where they also form a circle of tufts round the margin of the apical aperture."

In his first systematic catalogue of the known Hexactinellida Carter[5] united *Meyerina claviformis*, Gray, with *Holtenia* and *Pheronema* into one group. On pl. xiv. he has compared the extremities of the tuft spicules, which are very like the anchors of *Holtenia* and *Meyerina*.

In his Classification of the Spongidæ, published in 1875,[6] Carter formed the group of " *Birotulifera* " in the family of the Sarcohexactinellida, of the genera *Hyalonema*, *Holtenia*, *Meyerina* and *Labaria*.

The specific agreement of the variously designated forms was first recognised by Marshall, who, in his researches in the Hexactinellida[7] in 1875, pointed out that, with exception of the generic name *Hyalonema* used by Semper, the oldest designation is that of *Semperella schultzei*, and that this name is therefore entitled to be retained as the proper one. In his accurate and careful description of the two specimens at his command—one of which was found at Ceram and the other at Zebu—Marshall pointed

[1] *Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.*, ser. 4, vol. ii. pp. 373–377.
[2] *Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.*, ser. 4, vol. x. p. 76, 1872.
[3] *Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.*, ser. 4, vol. x. p. 110, 1872.
[4] *Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.*, ser. 4, vol. x. p. 134
[5] *Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.*, ser. 4, vol. xii. p. 162, 1873.
[6] *Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.*, ser. 4, vol. xvi. pp. 199, 120.
[7] *Zeitschr. f. wiss. Zool.*, Bd. xxv., Suppl., pp. 212–225.