

the Rio de la Plata; depth, 600 fathoms; bottom, green sand; bottom temperature, 37°·2. Three specimens (being the three which we regard as most typical of the species and from which the above description is taken).

*Myxilla nobilis*, var. *patagonica*, Ridley and Dendy (Pl. XXVII. figs, 13, 13a, 13b).

1886. *Myxilla nobilis*, var. *patagonica*, Ridley and Dendy, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. xviii. p. 473.

Sponge massive, amorphous. Size of largest specimen 37 mm. long by 19 mm. broad and 12 mm. thick. *Colour* in spirit light, yellowish-brown. *Texture* soft and crumbling. *Surface* uneven, rugose, traversed by meandering furrows, calling to mind the appearance of the Brainstone Coral (*Mæandrina*). *Dermal membrane* distinct, delicate, transparent. *Oscula* and *Pores* not observed.

*Skeleton*.—(a) *Dermal*; very feebly developed, consisting of scattered tylota. (b) *Main*; a roughly Halichondrioid reticulation of styli, with irregularly rectangular meshes, about one spicule's length in breadth. The rudimentary fibres, which are almost devoid of horny cementing substance, are echinated, more especially at the nodes, by smaller, spined styli, the bases of which rest upon the fibre.

*Spicules*.—(a) *Megasclera*; of three kinds. (1) Basally spined styli (Pl. XXVII. fig. 13), sometimes verging upon the tylostylote form; usually more or less curved and tapering gradually to a sharp point at the apex; size about 0·42 by 0·02 mm.; making up the main skeleton. (2) Much smaller styli (Pl. XXVII. fig. 13b), often with distinct heads (tylostylote); entirely spined, but more so at the base than elsewhere; usually straight; size up to about 0·175 by 0·01 mm., echinating the skeleton fibre at the nodes. (3) Tylota (Pl. XXVII. fig. 13a), long and slender, and with but slightly marked oval heads. The heads are sometimes flattened at the ends (and with a very faint trace of spination?). Size about 0·3 by 0·006 mm. Occurring scattered in the dermal membrane. (b) *Microsclera*; of one kind only, viz., tridentate isochelæ, with strongly curved shaft, length up to about 0·04 mm.

*Locality*.—Station 311, January 11, 1876; lat. 52° 45' 30" S., long. 73° 46' 0" W.; off the south-west coast of Patagonia; depth, 245 fathoms; bottom, blue mud; bottom temperature, 46°·0. One specimen (containing a good number of embryos scattered through it) and a few fragments.

*Myxilla nobilis*, var. *bacillifera*, Ridley and Dendy (Pl. XXVII. figs. 14, 14a, 14b).

1886. *Myxilla nobilis*, var. *bacillifera*, Ridley and Dendy, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. xviii. p. 473.

Sponge massive, amorphous. The largest specimen is irregularly globular in shape and about 25 mm. in diameter. *Colour* in spirit yellowish-grey. *Texture* very soft and spongy. *Surface* uneven, but not hispid. *Dermal membrane* distinct, very thin and