

already been noted by earlier authors. It is extremely well shown in the present variety, and we have thought it desirable to give a woodcut illustrative of it (*vide* woodcut, Fig. 9, B). This has been executed for us by Mr. Highley with his usual skill and accuracy, and renders further description unnecessary. It is, however, important to notice that in one of the specimens examined by us the skeleton was simply radiate, without any spiral twist at all; this is also shown in the figure (Fig. 9, A, A') contrasting strongly with the normal spiral arrangement. We must also note that this particular specimen contained large quantities of embryos in various stages of development; it is just possible that these two facts may be correlated, but it is very difficult to see how.

There are in the collection no less than fifty-three specimens which we refer to this variety; they vary much in size; the largest has a stem 75 mm. long, surmounted by a head about 17 mm. in diameter. We have never found more than a single osculum, which is situated at the top of the head. The specimens are in an excellent state of preservation and details as to their minute anatomy and histology will be found in the Introduction.

Neither in specimens of the species proper nor yet of the variety have we detected any branching of the stem, and this character, as well as those of the spiculation, &c., distinguishes *Stylocordyla stipitata*, Carter, from *Suberites ramulosa*, nobis, which somewhat resembles it in external form.

Localities.—Station 145, December 27, 1873; lat. 46° 43' 0" S., long. 38° 4' 30" E.; depth, 140 fathoms; bottom, volcanic sand. Three small specimens.

Off Kerguelen; depth, 10 to 100 fathoms. Fifty specimens.

Genus *Quasillina*, Norman.

1869. *Quasillina*, Norman, Last Report on Dredging among the Shetland Isles, Brit. Assoc. Rep. for 1868, p. 329.

1875. *Bursalina*, Schmidt, Jahresb. d. Comm. wiss. Untersuch. d. deutsch. Meere, Jahrg. ii., iii. p. 116.

Sponge corticate, stipitate, with oval body, bearing a single osculum at the summit, and short stalk. In the cortex primary skeleton fibres ascend in parallel lines from the base, crossed at right angles by secondary ones. Spicules, large and small styli.

Dr. Norman's diagnosis runs as follows:—"Sponge consisting of a single clavate hollow body, widening upwards from the base, and rising at once from the surface of the stone to which it is attached, without any expanded basal mass. Skeleton beautifully reticulate, primary fasciculi ascending in parallel straight lines from the base, and in diverging, radiating lines from a central mammæform projection at the summit of the sponge; secondary fasciculi at right angles to the primary ones. Spicula fusiformi-acuate."

We cannot agree with Bowerbank in placing the species *Quasillina brevis* in the genus *Polymastia*; it appears to us to differ from it very widely, and Dr. Norman has done good service in erecting a new genus for its reception. Schmidt cannot have been aware of