

have brought to light no less than 24 species of Monaxonid sponges (belonging to 14 genera) which live below the thousand fathom line, amongst which 13 live at depths of 2000 fathoms or more, as will be seen from the following list:—

LIST OF SPECIES WHICH LIVE BELOW THE 1000 FATHOM LINE.

| Species. | Depth in fathoms. |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. <i>Tedania actiniiformis</i> , | 2160 |
| 2. <i>Esperella mammiformis</i> , | 1600 |
| 3. „ <i>biserialis</i> , | 2250 and 2385 |
| 4. <i>Esperiopsis profunda</i> , | 1600 |
| 5. <i>Cladorhiza abyssicola</i> , var. <i>rectangularis</i> , | 2750 |
| 6. „ „ var. <i>linearis</i> , | 2385 |
| 7. „ <i>moruliformis</i> , | 1950 |
| 8. „ <i>longipinna</i> , | 3000 |
| 9. „ <i>similis</i> , | 2385 |
| 10. „ <i>inversa</i> , | 2200 |
| 11. „ (?) <i>tridentata</i> , | 1600 |
| 12. <i>Axoniderma mirabile</i> , | 2250 |
| 13. <i>Chondrocladia concrescens</i> , | 2900 |
| 14. „ <i>crinita</i> , | 2000 |
| 15. <i>Meliiderma stipitatum</i> , | 1600 |
| 16. <i>Phakellia ventilabrum</i> , var. <i>connexiva</i> , | 1035 |
| 17. <i>Axinella profunda</i> , | 2300 and 2385 |
| 18. „ <i>erecta</i> , | 1600 |
| 19. <i>Suberites senilis</i> , | 2050 |
| 20. <i>Polymastia corticata</i> , | 1200 |
| 21. <i>Trichostemma sarsii</i> , | 1000 and 1400 |
| 22. „ <i>irregulare</i> , | 2160 |
| 23. <i>Tentorium semisuberites</i> , | 1250 |
| 24. <i>Stylocordyla stipitata</i> , | 1600 |

Of the 14 genera thus represented, 9 (*Cladorhiza*, *Axoniderma*, *Chondrocladia*, *Meliiderma*, *Phakellia*, *Polymastia*, *Trichostemma*, *Tentorium* and *Stylocordyla*) must be regarded as characteristically belonging to the deep-sea fauna, being rarely or never met with in shallow water, while the remaining five are on the contrary typically more or less shallow-water forms, and are rarely met with at very great depths.

The scarcity of Monaxonid sponges at very great depths is fully compensated for by the unusual interest attaching to the few species which do occur. In examining the twenty-