

larger than usual and appear to pass into the microstrongyles, and as these pass from a highly curved to an almost straight form, we appear to have here another case of the development of a rhabdus from a spire.

The specimen of the sponge is unfortunately a dried one, and in the absence of any exact knowledge of its general anatomy, it is impossible to determine its true place among the Tetillid genera. The cortex appears to be that of *Tetilla*, but the characters of its spicules are so peculiar (probably in adaptation to the stalked manner of attachment) that one would not be surprised if, on further examination, it were found to be the type of a new genus. The amphitriænes sometimes are reduced to simple triænes, the end of the rhabdome, from which a triæne has disappeared, being then strongylate. I was not able to satisfy myself of the independent existence of the anatriæne, it appeared to me possible that it might be a form of the amphitriæne.

*Craniella abyssorum* (Carter).

*Tethya cranium*, var. *abyssorum*, Carter, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 4, vol. xviii. p. 405, pl. xvi. fig. 49, 1875.

„ „ „ „ Norman, Bowerbank, Mon. Brit. Spong., vol. iv. p. 39, 1879.

Sponge similar to *Craniella cranium*.

*Spicules*.—I. Megascleres. 1. *Somal oxea*, 4·3 by 0·045 mm. 2. *Cortical oxea*, 0·7 by 0·045 mm. 3. *Protriæne*, rhabdome 4·3 by 0·022 mm.; cladi 0·22 mm. long; chord 0·11 mm. 4. *Anatriæne*, rhabdome 6·5 by 0·02 mm.; cladi 0·116 mm. long; chord 0·16 mm.

II. Microsclere. 5. *Sigmaspire*, 0·02 mm. long.

*Habitat*.—Deep-sea, between the north of Scotland and the Færøe Isles (Carter).

*Remarks*.—The sigmaspire is much larger than in *Craniella cranium*, and frequently forms a little more than one revolution of a spiral; in addition the cladome of the anatriæne is characterised by longer, more slender, and more divergent cladi than in the corresponding spicule of *Craniella cranium*; the cortical oxea also is smaller. Hence I prefer, while admitting that it is very much a matter of taste, to make Carter's variety a distinct species.

*Craniella atropurpurea* (Carter).

*Tethya atropurpurea*, Carter, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., vol. vi. p. 176, pl. xiii. figs. 1–10, 1870.

Sponge spherical, compressed, free; surface raised into conules.

*Spicules*.—I. Megascleres. 1. *Somal oxea*, 3·57 by 0·0556 mm. 2. *Cortical oxea*, 1·25 by 0·0556 mm. 3. *Protriæne*, 5·0 by 0·014 mm. 4. *Anatriæne*, rhabdome 5·0 by 0·014 mm.