

*Characella stelletodes* (Carter).

*Pachastrella stelletodes*, Carter, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. xv. p. 403, pl. xiv. fig. 14, 1885.

*Sponge*.—Form (?).

*Spicules*.—I. Megascleres. 1. *Oxea*, 4.2 mm. long. 2. *Calthrops*, actines 1.15 mm. long.

II. Microscleres. 3. *Microxea*, minutely spined, 0.127 mm. long. 4. *Spiraster* or *Amphiaster*. The oxeas radiate in bundles from a common centre outwards, the calthrops lies in the ectosome, with three actines facial, and the fourth, which is shorter than the others, directed inwards.

*Habitat*.—Japan, off Misaki, at the entrance to the Bay of Tokio.

*Remarks*.—The arrangement of the calthrops of this sponge appears to ally it with *Characella*; the radial distribution of the oxeas is not met with in *Characella aspera*; whether it occurs in *Characella agassizi* or not I am uncertain.

*Characella agassizi*, n. sp.

*Pachastrella connectens*, var., O. Schmidt, Spong. Meerb. Mexico, p. 68, 1880.

*Sponge*.—"A large plate-like fragment" (O. Sch.).

*Spicules*.—I. Megascleres. 1. *Oxea*, stout, fusiform, slightly curved, somewhat anisoactinate, 3.2 by 0.11 mm. 2. *Orthotriæne*, rhabdome and cladi of about the same size, conical, oxeate, from 0.5 to 0.725 mm. in length.

II. Microscleres. 3. *Microxea*, slender, smooth, curved, rarely centrotylote, from 0.225 to 0.55 by 0.005 mm. 4. *Amphiaster*, axis fusiform, produced into a slender spine beyond each terminal whorl of spines, more or fewer of the spines frequently reduced to mere tubercles, but usually long and slender; axis 0.004 mm. long, spines 0.018 mm.; total length of the spicule 0.035 mm.

*Habitat*.—Grenada, 164 fathoms.

*Remarks*.—Schmidt gives no information by which this sponge can be identified, and at first I placed it by itself as of unknown genus and species; subsequently, owing to the kindness of Professor Perrier, I had an opportunity of examining a fragment of the original specimen; it has the same general appearance as the sponge which Carter described as *Pachastrella amygdaloides* (vide *Pacillastra amygdaloides*, p. 99), but since triænes are entirely absent from the choanosome it must be referred to *Characella*; in the general character of its spicules it approaches *Characella aspera*, Sollas.