

directed at right angles to the cortex, which they support by their cladomes; and of oxyasters, which commence at the chonal sphincters where the microstrongyles cease to appear.

*Spicules*.—I. Megascleres. 1. *Oxea*, fusiform, sharply pointed, occasionally strongylate at one or both ends, 1·06 to 1·24 by 0·035 mm. 2. *Dichotriæne*, rhabdome conical, sharply pointed, 0·556 by 0·0516 mm.; protocladi from 0·127 to 0·143 mm. long; deuterocladi from 0·175 to 0·368 mm. long.

II. Microscleres. 3. *Sterraster*, disciform, thin, circular or elliptical in outline, actines forming radiating rounded ridges on the more or less flat face, surface granulated; 0·084 to 0·106 by 0·077 mm., and 0·015 mm. thick. 4. *Oxyaster*, no definite centrum, actines slender, conical, smooth, varying in number from three to twelve, a single actine 0·023 mm. in length. 5. *Microstrongyle*, fusiform or cylindrical, centrotylote or not, surface roughened, 0·028 by 0·0035 mm.

*Colour*.—Black internally, owing to the presence of pigment-cells in the cortex.

*Habitat*.—Lesina, Adriatic (O. Schmidt); north-west Spain (Saville Kent).

*Remarks*.—The measurements of the spicules were obtained from a type-slide in the British Museum, and checked by others mounted by myself from a dry specimen kindly presented me by Professor von Graff. There is another slide labelled *Stelletta discophora*, O. S., Florida, amongst those presented to the British Museum by Oscar Schmidt; but its spicules appear to more closely resemble those of *Erylus euastrum*, O. Schmidt. A specimen referred to *Erylus discophorus* by Saville Kent, who dredged it off the north-west coast of Spain, occurs in the Kent Collection of the British Museum (No. 21, registered No. 72. 5. 4). This I have not examined.

*Erylus mammillaris* (O. Schmidt).

*Stelletta mammillaris*, O. Schmidt, Spong. Adriat. Meeres, p. 48, pl. v. fig. 1, 1862, and Suppl., iii. p. 20, 1868.

*Erylus mammillaris*, Gray, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., p. 549, 1867.

*Sponge*.—Growing from a widely extended base into a number of mammillary lobes, each of which bears a single large oscule at the extremity. Pores each the single opening of an incurrent chone. Cortex thin. Microstrongyles occur throughout the choanosome as well as beneath the epithelium of the cortex.

*Spicules*.—I. Megascleres. 1. *Oxea*, curved or sinuous, 1·5 by 0·032 mm. 2. *Dichotriæne*, rhabdome conical, oxeate, 0·716 by 0·044 mm.; protocladi 0·09 by 0·036 mm.; deuterocladi 0·09 mm. long.

II. Microscleres. 3. *Sterraster*, ellipsoidal, the ends of the actines covered with rounded granules; 0·106 by 0·043 by 0·032 mm. in diameter, or less elongated and wider, 0·0775 by 0·0516 mm. 4. *Choanosomal spheraster*, centrum small, actines conical,