

*Geodia megastrella*, Carter.

*Geodia megastrella*, Carter, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 4, vol. xviii. p. 400, pl. xvi. fig. 46, 1876.

*Sponge*.—Hemispherical, elongate, flattened at the base, attached. Oscule on the summit. Cortex, 0.876 mm. thick, ectochrote very thin, cortical oxeas rare.

*Spicules*.—I. Megascleres. 1. *Somal oxea*, 2.95 by 0.042 mm. 2. *Cortical oxea*, 0.191 and over by 0.007 mm. 3. *Orthotriæne*, occasionally replaced by a dichotriæne, rhabdome 2.8 by 0.07 mm., cladi 0.67 by 0.07 mm. 4. *Ana-* and 5. *Pro-triæne*, similar to those of *Geodia barrettii*, var. *nodastrella*, Carter.

II. Microscleres. 6. *Sterraster*, ellipsoidal, 0.183 mm. in diameter. 7. *Somal chiaster*, very variable, actines short, cylindrical, strongylate, or tylote; sometimes a small centrum is present, 0.008 mm. in diameter. 8. *Choanosomal oxyaster*, with from three to eight long, conical actines, minutely spined, a single actine 0.063 by 0.004 mm.

*Colour*.—Grey in the dried state.

*Habitat*.—Station 25, "Porcupine" expedition, 1870, near Cape St. Vincent; depth, 374 fathoms.

*Remarks*.—The size of the sterraster and the characters of the somal chiaster distinguish this from *Geodia barrettii*, var. *nodastrella*, Carter. In my sections the cortex also has a very different appearance to that in the last-named species, owing to the thinness of the ectochrote and the absence of brushes of cortical oxeas, which only occur singly.

*Geodia* (?) *megastrella*, var. *levispina*, Carter.

*Geodia megastrella*, var. *levispina*, Carter, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 4, vol. xviii. p. 401, pl. xvi. fig. 47, 1876.

This variety is founded on a fragment of the cortex, about 25 mm. square, with a little of the choanosomal tissue adherent. The sterraster is intermediate in size between that of *Geodia nodastrella* and *Geodia megastrella*, viz., 0.154 mm. in diameter, and the actines of the oxyaster are smooth, not spined. The orthotriæne is said to be smaller than that of the last-named species, but it is obviously impossible to obtain reliable measurements from such a small fragment as that which Carter had under examination.

*Geodia placenta*, O. Schmidt.

*Geodia placenta*, O. Schmidt, Spong. Adriat. Meeres, p. 49, pl. iv. fig. 7, 1862.

*Sponge*.—Tuberoso, depressed, or forming thick, incrusting, cake-like masses; surface finely or densely hispid; cortex from 1 to 3 mm. in thickness, consisting of an ecto-