

oxyaster, actines conical, oxeate, minutely roughened or spined, very variable in number and disposition, frequently reduced to one, with a second represented by a lateral terminal tylote, which is inclined to the axis of the actine so as to render the spicule retort-shaped; diactinate forms also common, the two actines sometimes making an angle of 60° with each other, with the outer margin well rounded about the angle, and the inner margin angular, a single actine 0·029 mm. in length.

Habitat.—East Africa; collection British Museum.

Remarks.—This species is distinguished by the characters of the choanosomal oxyaster, and the irregular repeated dichotomosis of the dichotriæne.

Cydonium depressum (Bowerbank).

Geodia depressa, Bowerbank, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., p. 5, pl. i. figs. 9–15, 1873.

Sponge.—Massive, sessile, surface even, minutely hispid; oscules congregated, resembling the pores; cortex 0·8 mm. in thickness, constituted chiefly of the sterrastral layer; ectochrote very thin, traversed by cortical oxeas.

Spicules.—I. Megascleres. 1. *Somal oxea*, 3·175 by 0·046 mm. (B.) to 4·28 by 0·06 mm. (S.). 2. *Cortical oxea*. 3. *Orthotriæne*, rhabdome 4·23 by 0·054 mm., chord 0·5 mm. (B.), and 4·0 by 0·097 mm. 4. *Anatriæne*, rhabdome 6·35 by 0·0127 mm. (B.), or by 0·0258 (S.), cladi 0·13 mm. long, chord 0·135 mm. (S.).

II. Microscleres. 5. *Sterraster*, spheroidal, 0·13 mm. (B.), 0·08 mm. (S.) in diameter. 6. *Somal spheraster*, 0·006 mm. in diameter. 7. *Choanosomal oxyaster*, actines not numerous, conical, 0·032 mm. in diameter.

Colour.—Cream-white in the dried state.

Habitat.—Dardanelles.

Remarks.—The letter (B.) after a measurement signifies that it was taken from Bowerbank's illustration, (S.) from type-slides in the British Museum.

The sponge is so similar to *Geodia gigas*, O. Schmidt, that I believe the two species will prove to be identical; but as I have only seen dried specimens of *Geodia depressa*, Bowerbank, I hesitate to suppress it.

Cydonium gigas (O. Schmidt).

Geodia gigas, O. Schmidt, Spong. Adriat. Meeres, p. 50, pl. iv. figs. 8, 9, 1862.

Sponge.—Spherical; surface finely hispid; oscules congregated; excurrent chones larger than the incurrent, but otherwise similar. Cortex 1 mm. thick; consisting of a well-developed ectochrote 0·13 mm. thick, traversed by very numerous hispidating oxeas