

ment. Walls thin, compactly built; exterior more or less rough, often acerosed with partially embedded sponge-spicules; interior smooth. Complete specimens sometimes $\frac{5}{12}$ th inch (10.5 mm.) in length.

The examination of Mr. Norman's specimens of *Astrorhiza catenata*, one of which is represented in Pl. XXVII. fig. 3, has led to the conclusion that they are small examples of the same polymorphic species that was subsequently described by myself under the name *Aschemonella scabra*. Nevertheless, the thin hard investment and the general contour of the chambers are sufficient to separate the type they exemplify from *Astrorhiza*; so that, whilst accepting Mr. Norman's specific name, the generic term *Aschemonella* must still be retained for them. Mr. Norman's description, as well as my own, was founded on disjointed segments, and until quite recently the features of the entire organism were a matter of conjecture. Further search, however, amongst material from the locality whence most of the specimens figured in Pl. XXVII. were obtained, has yielded two or three complete tests, drawings of which are given in Pl. XXVII. A, figs. 1-3.

These specimens help to explain the wide diversity of form exhibited by the fragments previously collected, and in a general way to confirm the characters originally attributed to the species. The number of segments however in the complete test, in fig. 2, for instance, is far in excess of what could have been anticipated; and it is still probable, judging by the contour of some of the disjointed fragments previously found, that there may have been considerable individual differences in this particular. Nor does there appear to be any uniform rule as to the mode of combination. In fig. 1 (Pl. XXVII. A.) the primordial segment is the largest; in fig. 2, the earliest segment is the smallest and the rest increase successively in size until the test begins to branch, after which they diminish somewhat. The branching takes place exactly as might have been foretold: a number of segments are first formed in single moniliform series, then the terminal chamber produces two or more tubulated apertures at its distal extremity, each of which gives rise to a new segment.

The drawings, Pl. XXVII. figs. 1-11, give some idea of the polymorphic character of the segments, but are far from exhausting the wonderful variety of odd shapes they assume. It may be noticed that one of them has no less than six stoloniferous tubes, each of which has probably communicated with a distinct chamber. In point of size the variation is equally striking, the individual segments ranging from $\frac{1}{75}$ th to $\frac{1}{8}$ th inch (0.33 to 5 mm.) in length.

The walls of the test are remarkably thin,—thinner perhaps than those of any other type of arenaceous Rhizopods, in comparison with the bulk of the sarcode lobes they have to support. They are constructed of very fine sand firmly cemented, and do not appear to be lacking in strength. The comparative rarity of unbroken specimens is chiefly due to the slenderness of the stoloniferous tubes. In the fresh condition there is a considerable