6. Anamixilla,2 n. gen.

Syconidæ without any special tubar skeleton, the supporting spicules of the parenchyma disposed in it like those in the Leuconidæ; in most cases, however, more or less parallel to the outer surface.

A certain analogy exists between Anamixilla and Heteropegma, and this analogy consists in the possession of a kind of spiculation which does not influence the form of the radial tubes. The tubar spicules of Heteropegma are too minute for it; the tubes of Anamixilla have no special skeleton at all, the spicules of their parenchyma showing an irregular "leuconoid" disposition. And, accordingly, the form of the radial tubes in both the cases is inconstant, they are of irregular outlines, may take an oblique course, and show an inclination to ramify.

The genus Anamixilla is hitherto represented by a single species:—

Anamixilla torresi, n. sp.

This species must undoubtedly be regarded as the representative of a new genus, for its organisation contains a new principle, and it is more than probable that there will be found Calcarea adhering to this principle, but presenting different variations in regard to the form and quality of their spicules.

I let the genus Anamixilla follow the genus Amphoriscus; a close relationship between these two genera cannot certainly be proved, but may be considered as very plausible, owing to the presence in my Anamixilla torresi of the peculiar subgastric triradiate spicules, so characteristic and of so great importance for most forms of the genus Amphoriscus. In Anamixilla torresi these subgastric sagittal spicules, compared with the large triradiate spicules of the parenchyma, are evidently too small and slender to be of any important physiological significance, and therefore can be regarded, not without reason, as an index of the phylogenetic affinities of the genus.

In the Family Leuconidæ I distinguish the following genera:—

Leucilla, Hæckel 8 (sensu mutato).

Leuconidæ with flagellated chambers of an elongated, cylindrical form, recalling that of the radial tubes of the Syconidæ, with the skeleton of the parenchyma bearing some traces of a certain regularity in the arrangement of its constituent parts, owing to the disposition of the subgastric and subdermal spicules opposite to each other.

¹ Kalkschwämme, Bd. ii. p. 259.

⁸ Kalkschwämme, Bd. ii. p. 132.

² From dramis, confusedly, pell-mell.