

The principal supporting spicules of the loose parenchyma consist of large or medium sized smooth oxyhexacts, with straight rays, and of straight or slightly curved oxydiacts, which are roughened towards their conically pointed extremities, and exhibit at their middle point four cruciate transverse tubercles, or an annular swelling, or at least the intersection of axial canals. These oxydiacts either lie isolated, or are for the most part disposed parallel to the surface. The larger and stouter forms are usually accompanied and ensheathed by a number of long thin oxydiacts or comitalia. As to smaller spicules, the parenchyma includes numerous regular oxyhexacts with more or less roughened rays, and also a large number of oxyhexaster forms which are very characteristic of this genus. In these the principal rays are comparatively long, simply cylindrical, or narrowed in a slightly conical fashion, and are always somewhat roughened terminally, where they divide into two or three short, diverging, conical terminals (Pl. LIV. fig. 5). When only two terminal rays are developed at the end of the principal, the planes of forking of the two rays in the same axis of the spicule are at right angles to one another. Finally, the parenchyma contains peculiar rosette forms, occurring in regular, but not very abundant distribution. These belong to the plume-like type, but are not so minute as those of *Lanuginella pupa*. They attain to about the same diameter as the above-described oxyhexasters, namely, about 0.1 mm. The short, cylindrical principal rays bear terminally a plano-convex transverse disc, from the outer convex surface of which several concentric whorls of S-shaped terminal rays arise. These go to form a perianth-like form with several whorls, enclosing a central funnel-shaped space (Pl. LIV. figs. 4, 6). The thinnest portion of these delicate S-shaped terminals lies near their origin, while the outer end becomes thickened in a somewhat club-shaped fashion, exhibiting, however, a slight attenuation at the extremity.

The *dermal skeleton* consists especially of hypodermal oxypentacts of variable size, in which the long proximal ray is always straight and radially disposed, while the four tangentials which go to form a quadrate lattice-work are usually curved gently inwards. Like the proximal ray, the tangentials frequently appear to be roughened near their conical extremities. Between these substantial pentact hypodermalia, the dermal membrane includes small cruciate autodermal tetracts in great abundance and in rectangular distribution. In these, the rough cylindrical rays, which are rounded off or even truncated at their ends, are curved slightly inwards, so that the whole spicule appears to be uniformly arched with the convexity outwards (Pl. LIV. figs. 2, 7). Sometimes, at the point of intersection of the four arms, an inward projecting boss or tubercle persists as an indication of the undeveloped fifth (proximal) ray. In a few of these dermalia, the fifth ray is actually developed, and exactly resembles the tangentials.

The *gastral skeleton* differs strikingly from the dermal. The hypogastral pentacts, as we should naturally expect, are wholly absent. Instead of them, there are