

1872. Sars, On some remarkable forms of animal life from the great deeps off the Norwegian Coast, vol. i. (*Hyalonema longissimum* and *Hyalonema purvum*).
1873. Gray, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 4, vol. xii. pp. 76, 347.
1873. Wyville Thomson, Depths of the Sea, p. 420.
1874. Gray, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 4, vol. xii. p. 284.
1874. E. P. Wright, Proc. Roy. Irish Acad., vol. i. p. 549.
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1875. Higgin, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 4, vol. xv. p. 377 (*Hyalonema cebuense*).
1875. Carter, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 4, vol. xvi. p. 1.
1875. Küstermann, Archiv f. mikrosk. Anat., Bd. xi. p. 282.
1875. Bowerbank, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., p. 607.
1875. Marshall, Zeitschr. f. wiss. Zool., Suppl.-Bd. xxv. p. 142 (*Hyalonema thomsoni* and *Hyalonema affine*).
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1876. Willemoes Suhm, Zeitschr. f. wiss. Zool., Bd. xxvii. p. xcvi.
1877. Wyville Thomson, The Atlantic, p. 273 (*Hyalonema toxeres*).
1877. Sollas, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 4, vol. xx. p. 285.
1877. Bowerbank, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., p. 461 (*Hyalonema anomalum*).
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1878. Carter, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. ii. p. 157.
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1881. Milne-Edwards, Comptes rendus, t. xciii. pp. 876, 931.
1885. Armauer Hansen, Spongiadæ of the Norwegian North Atlantic Expedition (*Hyalonema arcticum*).
1886. Filhol, La vie au fond des mers, p. 278.

History.—The first important scientific account of a *Hyalonema* is given by Gray¹ (*loc. cit.*, p. 79). After his description of the Pennatulidæ, the following remarks are found:—"Here also is placed the extraordinary glass-rope (*Hyalonema*, Gray), the axis of which is formed of numerous transparent siliceous fibres, slightly twisted together so as to look like a rope of spun glass; the fibres appear to be somewhat similar to the calcareous spicula of the Alcyonia. These corals are found with their tapering base inserted in a sponge on the coast of Japan. No animal hitherto discovered, except the inhabitant of this extraordinary substance, secretes pure silex."

Gray gave a more accurate description of this sponge in 1835,² regarding it as a *Gorgonia*-like coral with the following generic diagnosis:—" *Hyalonema*. Corallium simplex, subcylindricum, ad basin cortice coriaceo tuberculato tectum; tuberculis sparsis, depressis, polypiferis. Axis e spiculis numerosis, elongatis, filiformibus, subcontortis, siliceis constans. Polypus ignotus. *Hyalonema sieboldii*. Hab. apud Japoniam. Dr. Siebold."

Against the view held by Gray that the siliceous threads are to be regarded as

¹ Synopsis of the Contents of the British Museum, ed. 27, 1832, London, 12 mo.

² Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., pt. iii. pp. 63-65.