

spicules differ essentially from those of the corresponding portions in *Farrea occa*. The anchor-hooks in many of the gastral clavulæ seem to be especially long (Pl. LXXIV. fig. 12), and the hexasters are in part very divergent. Though most of the latter have a general resemblance to the oxyhexasters of *Farrea occa*, they differ from the latter in the greater thickness of their principal rays (Pl. LXXIV. fig. 8). Besides these, somewhat larger hexasters occur with weakly developed principal rays, which divide into four short S-shaped terminals, disposed in a perianth-like whorl and tipped with a small knob. (Pl. LXXIV. fig. 9).

#### 4. *Farrea clavigera*, n. sp. (Pl. LXXV.).

Near the Banda Islands (Station 194, lat. 4° 34' S., long. 129° 57' 30" E.), from a depth of 200 to 360 fathoms and volcanic mud ground, a *Farrea* was captured which in external appearance differed essentially from all hitherto described forms. This sponge forms a straight tubular stem about as broad and as long as a finger, with walls 1.5 to 2 mm. in thickness. It becomes gradually wider towards the upper end, attaining a diameter of 20 mm., and rising at right angles to a compact smooth basal expansion, which is directly attached to the solid substratum. Just above the solid base the internal lumen has a width of 3 mm., and is continued obliquely downwards into an external groove-like keel. At a height of 12 mm. the first lateral branch is given off, with a diameter of 8 mm., while further up several branches fork off in irregular distribution, in a somewhat transverse direction to the main stem. The latter seems to divide superiorly into two large branches which are unfortunately broken off. While some of the transverse tubes are broken off quite close to the main stem, others exhibit dichotomy into two very divergent branches. It is interesting that a very similar form has been described by Oscar Schmidt under the title *Farrea facunda* from among the Hexactinellids of the Bay of Mexico. It is figured in the work already referred to, pl. vii. fig. 1A.

The dictyonal framework does not vary essentially from that described in *Farrea occa*. Inferiorly it increases, on the one hand, in thickness, and on the other very markedly in the fineness of its meshes. The basal portion becomes a thick, stone-hard, very finely porous mass, in the meshes of which countless small hexacts occur, in part free, and in part fused to the adjacent framework. Isolated parenchymalia are further represented by uncinates and hexasters. The former seem to be comparatively long and narrow. Among the latter I have observed the form which occurs so abundantly in *Farrea occa*, but in much more sparse distribution. Whether a second form of hexaster, characterised by short principals and very long terminals, and occurring abundantly in some regions (Pl. LXXV. fig. 6), really belongs to this *Farrea*, or has been intruded from some other Hexactinellid, I cannot unfortunately determine with certainty.

The dermal pentacts resemble in general the corresponding dermalia of *Farrea occa*,