

Locality.—Station 307, January 4, 1876; lat. 49° 24' 30" S., long. 74° 23' 30" W.; off the south-west coast of Patagonia; depth, 140 fathoms; bottom, blue mud. One specimen.

Reniera tufa,¹ Ridley and Dendy (Pl. I. figs. 6, 6a; Pl. II. fig. 7).

1886. *Reniera tufa*, Ridley and Dendy, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser 5, vol. xviii. p. 328.

Sponge (Pl. I. fig. 6) massive, sessile, cake-like; represented in the collection by two pieces, each measuring about 62 mm. long by 43 broad, and up to 20 mm. thick. *Colour* in spirit greyish-yellow. *Texture* firm, almost stony, but somewhat brittle, the sponge being traversed by wide canals (*vide* Pl. I. fig. 6a). *Surface* smooth where the dermal membrane is intact, but uneven. *Dermal membrane* distinct, rather coarse, readily peeling off, strengthened by a close reticulation of spicules. *Oscula* rather small, circular, with their margins flush with the general surface of the sponge, and each surrounded by a membranous diaphragm which greatly reduces the diameter of the exhalent canals at the surface. *Pores*, as usual, rounded openings scattered through the dermal membrane.

Skeleton.—A compact, but rather irregular, almost unispicular reticulation of oxete spicules, with triangular meshes; no special dermal skeleton.

Spicules.—Smooth, very slightly curved, subhastately-pointed oxea (Pl. II. fig. 7), measuring about 0.2 by 0.01 mm.

This species seems to come near to Schmidt's *Cribrochalina cretacea*,² but differs in the size of the spicules and in the arrangement of the oscula, the latter point being the most remarkable character in Schmidt's species.

Keller's *Reniera litoralis*³ also resembles our species very strikingly, especially in external form; but here again we find differences in the arrangement of the oscula and the proportions of the spicules. In *Reniera litoralis* the spicules of the main skeleton are described as being nearly twice the length of those of the dermal skeleton and much more slender, a feature which does not obtain in *Reniera tufa*.

Locality.—Porto Praya, St. Iago, Cape Verdes, 100 to 128 fathoms. Two pieces.

Subfamily 2. CHALININÆ.

1868. *Chalinee*, Schmidt, Spong. d. Küste v. Algier, p. 7.

1886. *Chalinina*, Ridley and Dendy, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. xviii. p. 328.

A considerable amount of spongin is present, typically forming a thick sheath completely enveloping the spicules and uniting them into strong fibres.

¹ So-called from the resemblance to a piece of pumice-stone.

² Spong. Atlant. Gebiet., p. 36.

³ Zeitschr. f. wiss. Zool., Bd. xxx. p. 579.