

The species is distinguished from *Trachytedania spinata*, Ridley, the only species hitherto known, by the superior dimensions of all the spicules, by the distribution of the spines practically all over the stylote spicules, and by the fine spination of most of the raphides.

*Localities*.—Station 308, January 5, 1876; lat. 50° 8' 30" S., long. 74° 41' 0" W.; off the south-west coast of Patagonia; depth, 175 fathoms; bottom, blue mud. One small specimen.

Station 308 (?) or 311 (?), off the south-west coast of Patagonia. The larger specimen.

#### Subfamily 4. DESMACELLINÆ.

1886. *Desmacellina*, Ridley and Dendy, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. xviii. p. 336.

Megasclera all monactinal, stylote to tylostylote. Microsclera sigmata or toxa or both.

#### Genus *Desmacella*, Schmidt.

1870. *Desmacella*, Schmidt, Spong. Atlant. Gebiet., p. 53.

1870. ? *Desmacodes*, Schmidt, Spong. Atlant. Gebiet., p. 54.

This being the sole genus of the subfamily the diagnosis is the same.

Schmidt's original diagnosis (*loc. cit.*) runs thus:—"Spongien, welcher ausser den gestreckten einfachen Nadeln nur Bogen oder Spangen besitzen. Die Nadeln entweder in undeutlichen Zügen oder faserig geschichtet." With regard to *Desmacodes* he states (*loc. cit.*) of *Desmacodes subereus*, the type of the genus, that it unites the habit of *Papillina suberea* with the spicules of *Desmacella*, and describes the spicules as "Spindel-nadeln," "Stifte," "Stecknadeln" and "Spangen," but his description is very scanty.

Vosmær<sup>1</sup> limits the name *Desmacella* to species with diancistra or "trenchant bihamate" spicules (*Vomerula* of this Report, &c.), but subsequently<sup>2</sup> places these under *Hamacantha*, Gray, stating that *Desmacella pumilio* and *Desmacella vagabunda* of Schmidt, the types of the genus *Desmacella*, could easily be referred to *Desmacodes* (although he proceeds inconsistently to place *Desmacella vagabunda* under *Gellius* directly afterwards). But the name *Desmacella* has the advantage of priority over *Desmacodes*; and therefore, while we agree with Vosmær in keeping this little group of species distinct from *Gellius* and its allies on the one hand and *Vomerula* and its allies on the other, we retain the name originally conferred upon them.

*Desmacellæ* are not commonly met with. A species is described by Carter in the "Porcupine" Report as *Desmacella pumilio* of Schmidt, but as yet very little is known about the group.

<sup>1</sup> The Family of the Desmacidinidæ, Notes from the Leyden Museum, vol. ii. p. 109.

<sup>2</sup> Sponges of the "Willem Barents" Expedition, 1880-81, p. 28.