

(Pl. XXI. fig. 11) of the usual *Chondrocladia* type, each with a curved shaft expanded towards each end and with three claw-like teeth at each extremity. Length about 0.057 mm. (2) A few sigmata, simple and contort, about 0.044 mm. long.

It will be seen that this sponge makes a near approach to the "*Crinorhiza*" form, but does not quite attain to it. It is chiefly remarkable on account of its minute size and the exceedingly small amount of soft tissues present. It was obtained in comparatively shallow water (140 fathoms), but on a bottom of mud.

*Locality*.—Station 174, August 3, 1874; lat. 19° 6' 0" S., long. 178° 14' 20" E.; Kandavu, Fiji Islands; depth, 140 fathoms; bottom, coral mud. Two specimens.

*Chondrocladia crinita*, Ridley and Dendy (Pl. XX. fig. 4; Pl. XXI. figs. 3, 17).

1886. *Chondrocladia crinita*, Ridley and Dendy, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. xviii. p. 345.

Sponge (Pl. XX. fig. 4), of the "*Crinorhiza*" form, consisting of a rather large, conical body, terminating above in a stout, spike-like projection, composed of spiculo-fibre. The base of the sponge is fringed by a number of long, coarse, hair-like processes, and from near its centre projects a short papilla. Diameter of body at base 15 mm.; height of body 12 mm. *Colour* in spirit brownish-yellow. *Surface* ribbed by the projection of the upper parts of the fringing processes, which are very prominent. *Dermal membrane* distinct, rather thick; containing numerous microsclera, especially isochelae, but no megasclera.

*Skeleton*.—Of the "*Crinorhiza*" type, consisting of a central axis of dense spiculo-fibre, forming the spike at the summit of the sponge and not developed below; with radiating bands of spiculo-fibre which form the axes of the fringing processes.

*Spicules*.—(a) *Megasclera*; slender styli (Pl. XXI. fig. 3), measuring in the main fibres about 2.2 by 0.044 mm. (b) *Microsclera*; (1) numerous large isochelae (Pl. XXI. fig. 17) of the usual *Chondrocladia* form, with curved shaft expanded towards each end and three teeth at each extremity. Length about 0.1 mm. (2) Slender, more or less contort sigmata; very abundant in the dermal membrane; length about 0.07 mm.

This sponge is of especial interest on account of its having acquired the "*Crinorhiza*" form. Unfortunately only a single specimen was obtained, and that in very bad condition. On cutting it open a number of embryos were found imbedded in the soft tissues near the centre of the sponge.

*Locality*.—Station 216A, February 16, 1875; lat. 2° 56' N., long. 134° 11' E.; north of New Guinea; depth, 2000 fathoms; bottom, Globigerina ooze; bottom temperature, 35°.4. One specimen.