

The species may be readily recognised by its very characteristic external appearance.

*Localities*.—St. Vincent, Cape Verde Islands; shallow water. Two specimens.

Harbour, St. Vincent, July 1873; depth, 7 to 30 fathoms. One specimen.

*Axinella* (?) *tubulosa*, Ridley and Dendy (Pl. XXXVIII. fig. 4).

1886. *Axinella* (?) *tubulosa*, Ridley and Dendy, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. xviii. p. 482.

Sponge (Pl. XXXVIII. fig. 4) erect, tubular; tubes either open at the top or closed, finger-like, the latter probably young forms of the former. There is only one small specimen in the collection, consisting of one broad, tubular process, 17 mm. wide, and widely open at the summit, and one narrow, closed, digitate tube 6 to 8 mm. wide; both arising from a common basal portion. Height of specimen 50 mm. *Colour* in spirit greyish-yellow. *Texture* fairly firm. *Surface* uneven, pitted and rather corrugated. *Oscula* small, numerous on the inner surface of the wide, open tube.

*Skeleton*.—Extremely vague and confused, with no distinct fibre, consisting of a loose, irregular reticulation of large, stout, stylote spicules, with small slender styli in loose brushes near the surface and also scattered about. Around the mouth of the wide tube is a narrow, delicate, membranous collar, supported solely by the slender stylote spicules.

*Spicules*.—*Megasclera*; smooth styli. (1) Large and stout, more or less bent, fairly gradually sharp pointed; size about 0·87 by 0·03 mm., thickest in the centre. (2) Similar but much shorter and slenderer styli, size about 0·45 by 0·009 mm.

The most interesting feature about this species is its tubular form; a character, which, so far as is known to us, is hitherto unparalleled amongst the Axinellidæ, except in Schmidt's "*Auletta sycinularia*;"<sup>1</sup> that sponge is, however, regularly ramose instead of merely lobose, like the present species.

*Locality*.—Station 320, February 14, 1876; lat. 37° 17' S., long. 53° 52' W.; off the Rio de la Plata; depth, 600 fathoms; bottom, green sand; bottom temperature, 37°·2. One specimen.

*Axinella* (?) *paradoxa*, Ridley and Dendy (Pl. XXV. fig. 4).

1886. *Axinella* (?) *paradoxa*, Ridley and Dendy, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. xviii. p. 482.

Sponge (Pl. XXV. fig. 4) sessile, massively lobate; height of single specimen present about 25 mm. *Colour* in spirit pale, greyish-yellow. *Texture* india-rubber-like, with a firm, gelatinous ectosome; internally fibrous. *Surface* glabrous, but conulose. The conuli are projections caused by the vertically ascending skeleton columns; hence they occur chiefly on the summits of the lobes, while the sides are rather ridged or grooved.

<sup>1</sup> Spong. Atlant. Gebiet., p. 45, pl. iv. fig. 5. This sponge is evidently an Axinellid, as is shown by Schmidt's figures of the spicules.