

Preliminary Report only three sponges had been described under the name *Latrunculia* viz.:—*Latrunculia cratera*, Bocage (*loc. cit. supra*); *Latrunculia corticata*, Carter<sup>1</sup> and *Latrunculia purpurea*, Carter.<sup>2</sup> Both of Mr. Carter's species have, however, oxeote in place of stylote megasclera; in this they agree with one of the Challenger species and all are thereby very sharply marked off from the original type and from three new species obtained by the Challenger; indeed it seems doubtful whether these forms with oxeote megasclera ought to be included in the same genus with the species that have stylote spicules; this question we must leave open for the present, but for the sake of convenience we shall consider those forms with oxeote spicules as doubtfully belonging to the genus *Latrunculia*.

Schmidt has described two sponges under the generic name *Sceptrella*; the first of these, viz., *Sceptrella regalis*,<sup>3</sup> is of rather doubtful systematic position, though almost certainly referable to the genus *Latrunculia*. *Sceptrella triloba*,<sup>4</sup> the second species, is undoubtedly a *Latrunculia* (*Latrunculia triloba*), as will readily be seen from Schmidt's brief description, which we quote in full:—"Bildet Krusten, am Rande mit röhrenförmigen Fortsätzen, welche theils eine wirkliche Osculum-Oeffnung haben, theils bloss durch microscopische Poren den Wasserabfluss gestatten. Die st.-sp. Nadeln in der Mitte etwas dicker. Zwischen diesen gröberer feinere. Die charakterischen Schachfigurenförmigen Kieselkörper zeigen die grösste Verwandtschaft mit denen der Sceptr. regalis von Florida, ihre vier Wirtel bestehen aber nur aus drei Strahlen, welche sich ein- bis zweimal dichotomisch gabeln. Diese Körper bilden, indem ihre Axen senkrecht zur Oberfläche stehen, ein dichtes Pflaster."

*Podospongia lovenii*, Bocage,<sup>5</sup> seems to be nearly allied to the genus *Latrunculia*, but, without entering into the question of spiculation, the presence of a very distinct stalk is sufficient to separate it generically.

*Latrunculia apicalis*, Ridley and Dendy (Pl. XLIV. fig. 4; Pl. XLV. figs. 9-9c).

1886. *Latrunculia apicalis*, Ridley and Dendy, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. xviii. p. 492.

Sponge (Pl. XLIV. fig. 4) massive, sessile, with broad base attached to foreign objects, and very strongly convex upper surface beset with more or less numerous small, mammi-form processes. The largest specimen (the one from Kerguelen) measures 114 mm. in length by 75 mm. in breadth and 56 mm. in thickness in the middle, the base is oval and the upper surface very strongly convex and beset with an enormous number of small

<sup>1</sup> *Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.*, ser. 5, vol. iii. p. 298, pl. xxvii. figs. 3-4.

<sup>2</sup> *Op. cit.*, ser. 5, vol. vii. p. 380, pl. xviii. fig. 5.

<sup>3</sup> *Spong. Atlant. Gebiet.*, p. 58, pl. v. fig. 24. The systematic position of this sponge is discussed in our Introduction.

<sup>4</sup> *Jahresb. d. Comm. wiss. Unters. deutsch. Meere*, Jahrg. ii., iii., p. 119, pl. i. figs. 17, 18.

<sup>5</sup> *Jorn. Acad. real Sci. Lisbon*, vol. ii. p. 159, pl. x. fig. 1.