

Genus 2. *Pæcillastra*,<sup>1</sup> n. n.*Normania*, Bowerbank, Brit. Assoc. Rep., p. 328, 1868.

Thereidæ not possessing specialised poriferous recesses; usually of plate-like form, bearing incurrent pores on one face, and small evenly dispersed oscules on the other. The megascleres are not radiately arranged; and, in addition to triænes occupying the usual position, calthrops are present within the choanosome. The microscleres are microxeas and spirasters, the former forming a loose felt throughout the sponge.

*Pæcillastra schulzii*, Sollas (Pl. IX.).*Normania schulzii*, Sollas, Prelim. Account, Sci. Proc. Roy. Dubl. Soc., vol. v. p. 185, 1886.

*Sponge* (Pl. IX. fig. 1).—A thick plate-like growth, with rounded margins, erect, flabelliform or vase-shaped; attached; surface even; rough to touch; pores on the outer side in generally dispersed cribriform areas; oscules small, evenly dispersed on the inner side; excurrent canals, small and numerous, entering the wall more or less transversely, separated by intervals usually less than their own diameter from each other near their oscular terminations.

Flagellated chambers various in size, the largest about 0·0395 mm. in diameter when circular in section, and 0·0355 by 0·0434 mm. when oval. Apopyle 0·0158 mm. in diameter.

*Spicules*.—I. Megascleres. 1. *Oxea* (Pl. IX. fig. 2), straight or slightly curved, not very sharply pointed; 3·57 by 0·071 mm.

2. *Oxea* (Pl. IX. fig. 3), slender, cylindrical, sharply pointed, irregularly curved; 4·28 by 0·013 mm.

3. *Orthotriæne* (Pl. IX. fig. 4). With straight, conical, sharply pointed rhabdome and cladi; cladi slightly projecting forwards, sometimes retroflexed or bent laterally (Pl. IX. fig. 16) near the ends; rhabdome 0·714 by 0·071 mm.; cladi 0·357 mm. long.

4. *Calthrops* (Pl. IX. fig. 5), of the usual form; actines 0·4 by 0·048 mm.

II. Microscleres. 5. *Microxea* (Pl. IX. figs. 6, 19–21), fusiform, sharply pointed, curved or somewhat sharply bent in the middle, roughened or minutely spined or smooth; 0·129 by 0·00395 mm.

6. *Metaster* (Pl. IX. figs. 8–13), axis curved once, bearing spines on the convex side and at the ends, or straight and spined at the ends only; rarely reduced to a plesiaster with three or four spines. Total length 0·0316 mm., of a single spine 0·0138 mm.

7. *Spiraster* (Pl. IX. figs. 14, 15), spire of about two or three revolutions, extended on the outer side into a lamella or ala, bearing short, rod-like, abruptly truncated spines

<sup>1</sup> ποικίλος, variegated, various.