

*Pilochrota* (?) *lactea* (Carter).

*Stelletta lactea*, Carter, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 4, vol. vii. p. 9, pl. iv. figs. 17-21.

„ „ Norman, Mon. Brit. Spong., Bowerbank, vol. iv. p. 210, 1882.

*Sponge* small, filling small excavations made on rocks by *Saxicava* and other boring animals.

*Spicules*.—I. Megascleres. 1. *Oxea*, 1.25 mm. long. 2. *Orthotriæne* and *dichotriæne*, 0.825 mm. in length.

II. Microscleres. 3. *Spheraster*, minute, centrum of variable size, sometimes almost absent, sometimes of much greater diameter than the length of the actines; actines numerous, slender, oxeate, truncate, or rarely tylote; 0.0125 mm. in diameter. 4. *Orthodragma*, confined to the choanosome, 0.025 mm. in length.

*Colour*.—White externally.

*Habitat*.—South Devonshire.

*Remarks*.—As I am ignorant of the structure of the cortex of this species it is with considerable hesitation that I place it in the genus *Pilochrota*; the orthodragmas, as stated by Carter, are confined to the choanosome, and there is no necessity therefore to assign it to *Dragmastra*, with which it is evidently not nearly related.

*Astrella anceps* (O. Schmidt).

*Stelletta anceps*, O. Schmidt, Spong. Adriat. Meeres, Suppl., iii. p. 31, 1868.

*Sponge* forming irregular crusts; cortex from 0.8 to 1.6 mm. in thickness, apparently not differentiated into two layers; surface hispid.

*Spicules*.—I. Megascleres. 1. *Oxea*, 1.78 by 0.045 mm. 2. *Orthotriæne*, 1.25 mm. in length; esactine frequently shortened and strongylate; cladi 0.142 mm. long. This spicule is frequently reduced to a diæne.

II. Microsclere. 3. *Pycnaster*, from 0.013 to 0.02 mm. in diameter (0.0098 mm., O. Schmidt); this is a remarkably variable form, passing into oxyasters, chiasters with bacillary truncate actines and spherasters, without, however, changing its size.

*Colour*.—Cortex violet.

*Habitat*.—Cette, Algiers.

*Remarks*.—This sponge is very closely allied to *Astrella pumex*, from which it is distinguished by the difference in the form of the cladome of the triænes. I have provisionally assigned it to the genus *Astrella*, but am much inclined to think that its better place would be with *Pilochrota*.