Tethyopsis columnifera, Stewart.

Tethyopsis columnifer, C. Stewart, Monthly Micr. Journ., vol. x., N.S., p. 281, pl. xviii., 1870.

Sponge more or less spherical, basal half torn away, produced into a special excurrent tube, the surface of which is raised into somewhat conical, compressed ridges, spirally arranged. Surface of the sponge incrusted with attached foreign bodies.

Spicules.—I. Megascleres. 1. Oxea, fusiform, 7.0 by 0.06 mm., rare.

- 2. Somal orthotriæne, rhabdome 6.84 by 0.11 mm., cladi 0.4 mm. in length.
- 3. Cloacal orthotriæne, with one cladus much elongated.
- II. Microscleres. 4. Ectosomal spheraster, minute, with a comparatively large centrum, actines reduced to rounded tubercles, 0.008 mm. in diameter.
- 5. Choanosomal chiaster, centrum small, actines numerous and slender, hair-like; reminding one of a young form of sterraster, 0.02 mm. in diameter.
 - 6. Orthodrayma, 0.0276 mm. long; scattered through the choanosome. Colour.—White.

Habitat.—Philippine Islands.

Remarks.—The single specimen existing of this sponge is mutilated at the base, so that no traces of an incurrent tube, if it ever possessed one, remain. The sponge-body measures about 35 mm. in diameter, the cloacal tube 42 mm. in length by 7.5 mm. in diameter.

The species differs in many respects from Disyringa dissimilis; the two characters on which I rely for their generic distinction are primarily the absence of sanidasters in Tethyopsis columnifera, these being replaced by spherasters, and secondarily the absence of tangentially arranged oxeas in the cortex.

Characters of minor importance are the general absence of diænes and monænes in the sponge-body, and of modified dichotriænes in the cloacal tube; the absence of longitudinal tracts formed by the rhabdomes of the triænes in the cloacal tube, excepting those which form the central axis, and as a consequence, the absence of a spicular framework for the support of the dermal membrane of the tube, this resting on the ends of the cladi of the triænes and not on their sides. Orthodragmas, although present in Disyringa dissimilis, do not occur in the choanosome, while in Tethyopsis columnifera they do.

Tethyopsis radiata (Marshall).

Ayilardiella radiata, Marshall, Abhandl. d. k. Akad. d. Wiss. Berlin for 1883, 1884.

Sponge.—Unknown, excurrent or cloacal tube cylindrical, rounded at the distal end, raised into eight long low ridges, separated by shallow groves, longitudinally and somewhat spirally arranged, consisting of a small axial canal surrounded by eight larger peripheral canals. Rhabdomes of the orthotriænes longitudinally disposed in the wall of the axial canals (or in the axis of the tube?).