white branches. The enlarged figure of a polyp represents a thin central horny axis with a rather thick cœnenchyma and a semi-retracted polyp, possibly a Muriceid.

The enlarged figure given of *Swiftia exserta*, D. and M. (*loc. cit.*, pl. xi. fig. 5), shows a thin cœnenchyma with a thick axis, and we read "Nous ne donnons pas la description de cette espèce, qui a déjà été publiée par les auteurs." Good specimens of *Thesea guadalupensis*, D. and M., are still in the Museum at Turin, and this form would appear to be near *Acis*, D. and M. The axis is horny, not effervescing with acids; polyps prominent, and the cœnenchyma is loaded with very large irregular spicules.

A new species of *Thesea* has been described by Verrill,[1] *Thesea gemmata*, which the author says resembles in external characters *Gorgonia exserta* as figured by Ellis and Solander, which latter Duchassaing and Michelotti refer to their *Swiftia exserta*, but it has more prominent verrucæ. Its spicules are however very different from those of *Thesea guadalupensis*, D. and M. The *Gorgonia richardii*, D. and M., bears some resemblance to it in external appearance, so far as one can judge from the figures, but has stouter branches and more cylindrical verrucæ.

It seems desirable to mention these facts here, for *Thesea gemmata*, Verrill, appears to have a likeness to a very interesting species of Gorgonid found by the Challenger Expedition at Banda, for which we have been obliged to make the above new genus, Verrill's species was obtained in deep water off St. Croix, West Indies.

Platycaulos danielsseni, n. sp. (Pl. XXXIII. fig. 8; Pl. XXXV. figs. 1, 1*a*).

The colony is branched, the branches arising in the one plane; both the stem and branches are compressed. The total height of the colony is 325 mm., with a basal axial diameter of 8 mm. in its broad and of 4 mm. in its short diameter. The colony was attached by a broad base, the remains of which are preserved. The branches rise at intervals of about 10 mm., at a height of 95 mm. from the base the broad diameter of the axis is 6 mm. The first six branches from the left side of the stem are short, from 15 to 20 mm. in length, simple or feebly branched. The seventh extends to a length of 170 mm. with a breadth of 5 mm., and divides into a number of smaller branches which again divide; between two of these there is an anastomosis. At an interval of 50 mm. another large branch is given off, which also divides as in the former case; between the two large branches and between the second branch and the apex of the stem there are several small twigs; the lengths of these diminish as they approach the summit. The ramification of the left side of the stem is of the same nature, but all the branches are smaller than those of the opposite side, not exceeding 130 mm. in length. One of the smaller branches has become anastomosed with the main axis. The cœnenchyma is moderate in thickness, when dry it presents a roughened appearance owing to an outer layer of spiny spindle-shaped spicules; an inner layer contains both stellate and spindle-shaped spicules.

[1] *Amer. Journ. Sci. and Arts*, vol. xlviii. p. 428.