

Desmacella annexa, Schmidt.

1870. *Desmacella vagabunda*, var. *annexa*, Schmidt, Spong. Atlant. Gebiet., p. 53.

1874. *Desmacella pumilio*, Carter, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 4, vol. xiv. p. 250.

1880. *Desmacodes vagabundus*, var. *annexa*, Vosmaer, Notes from the Leyden Museum, vol. ii. p. 108.

With this species we identify a small fragment from Station 24. The most characteristic feature of the species is the presence of numerous very fine toxa, measuring 0.09 by 0.001 mm. These toxa also occur in Schmidt's type specimen, as attested by a preparation in the British Museum, although Schmidt and Vosmaer both refer to them simply as "acerates."

The identification of Mr. Carter's species was made after a comparison of his account with the slides representing Schmidt's species in the British Museum.

Locality.—Station 24, March 25, 1873; lat. 18° 38' 30" N., long. 65° 5' 30" W.; West Indies; depth, 390 fathoms; bottom, Pteropod ooze.

Habitat.—Florida (Schmidt); English Channel (Carter); West Indies (Challenger).

Subfamily 5. HAMACANTHINÆ.

1872. *Hamacanthidæ*, Gray, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 4, vol. ix. p. 449.

1886. *Vomerulinæ*, Ridley and Dendy, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. xviii. p. 337.

Megasclera oxea or styli. Microsclera large diancistra, to which others may be added.

We propose to recognise in this subfamily two genera, according as the megasclera are oxeote (ranging to strongylote) or stylote. In the one genus, *Hamacantha*, Gray,¹ the only species yet known to us is Bowerbank's *Hymedesmia johnsoni*,² a species which appears to have been never yet described, although Dr. Bowerbank figures the characteristic diancistra (*loc. cit.*). Examination of the preparations in the British Museum has shown us that the megasclera are oxeote. The second genus is *Vomerula*, Schmidt, in which the megasclera are stylote.

Unfortunately the genus *Hamacantha* is not represented in the Challenger collection.

Genus *Vomerula*, Schmidt (Pls. XII., XVII.).

1874. *Halichondria, pars*, Bowerbank, Mon. Brit. Spong., vol. iii. p. 208.

1880. *Vomerula*, Schmidt, Spong. Meerb. von Mex., p. 82.

1885. *Hamacantha, pars*, Vosmaer, Sponges of the "Willem Barents" Expedition, 1880-81, p. 28 (*sep*); *nec id.*, Bronn's Klass. u. Ordn. d. Thierreichs, Porifera, p. 352, *nec* Gray, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1867, p. 538.

Megasclera styli.

This genus has been wrongly characterised by Vosmaer as distinguished by the

¹ Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1867, p. 538.

² Vide Mon. Brit. Spong., vol. i. figs. 112, 293.