

*Remarks.*—The general character of the skeleton is that of a *Characella*; from the other species of this genus it differs in possessing anatriænes and oxyasters. Before examining types in the British Museum, I regarded this sponge as a *Stryphnus*, with which it has many points in common, and it is possible that further examination may lead to its being placed in that genus.

*Pilochrota purpurea* (Ridley) (omitted from p. 180).

*Stelletta purpurea*, Ridley, Voyage of the "Alert," p. 473, pl. xl. fig. E; pl. xliii. figs. j. j., 1885.  
*Stelletta purpurea*, var. *retroflexa*, Ridley, *loc. cit.*, pl. xliii. fig. k.

*Sponge.*—Free, subspherical, or subovate. Oscule single, circular, about 2 mm. in diameter, leading into a deep cloaca. Surface embossed with small semiglobular elevations. Cortex 0·7 mm. in thickness.

*Spicules.*—I. Megascleres. 1. *Oxea*, slender, sharply pointed, 1·5 to 2 by 0·037 mm. 2. *Orthotriæne*, rhabdome stout, oxeate, 1·4 to 1·6 by 0·045 to 0·06 mm.; cladi 0·27 mm. long. 3. *Anatriæne*, rhabdome slender, sharply pointed, cladome almost flat in front; rhabdome 2 by 0·035 mm. cladi 0·07 mm., chord 0·1 mm. long.

II. Microscleres. 4. *Chiaster*, actines slender, seven to ten in number, terminally tylote, centrum absent, diameter 0·02 to 0·025 mm.

*Colour.*—Purple. Size, about 34 by 26 mm.

*Habitat.*—Prince of Wales Channel, Thursday Island, and West Island, Torres Strait; depth, 4 to 9 fathoms; bottom, sand, or sand and coral.

Port Darwin; depth, 7 to 12 fathoms; bottom, sand and mud.

Arafura Sea, off north-west coast of Australia; depth, 32 to 36 fathoms; bottom, sand, mud, and shells.

*Pilochrota purpurea*, var. *parvistella* (Ridley).

*Stelletta purpurea*, var. *parvispicula*, Ridley, Voyage of the "Alert," p. 627, 1885.

*Sponge.*—Oval, oscule not evident.

*Spicules.*—I. Megascleres. 1. *Oxea*, 0·025 mm. in diameter. 2. *Orthotriæne*, rhabdome 0·032 mm. in diameter. 3. *Anatriæne*, rhabdome 0·023 mm. in diameter. All the megascleres are slenderer than those of the typical species.

II. Microsclere. 4. *Chiaster*, actines more numerous than in the typical species, diameter less, 0·007 to 0·0095 mm.

*Colour.*—Purple. Size, 7·5 mm.

*Habitat.*—Providence Reef, Mascarene Group, Indian Ocean; depth, 24 fathoms.