

the type is wider at the sides than in the central portion," so that even the aperture appears to be more or less variable in its characters, and in so far non-distinctive.

Technitella melo, Norman (Pl. XXV. fig. 7, a.b.).

Technitella melo, Norman, 1878, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. i. p. 280, pl. xvi. figs. 5, 6.

Mr. Norman describes this species in the following terms:—"Test regularly ovoid, broadly and evenly rounded below (aborally); greatest diameter below the middle; above the middle sloped away to the central anterior (oral) opening. Oral opening not markedly extruded or tubular as in *Technitella legumen*, but compressed, so that the opening is in the form of a slit; this slit in the type is wider at the sides than in its central portion. The test is formed of minute linear sponge-spicules, built carefully into the wall, and the interstices filled with the same sort of snow-white cement as in *Technitella legumen*. Instead, however, of the whole of the spicula being entirely built into the body-wall, as in the case of that species, the aboral portion is garnished with scattered acerate projecting spicula, the pointed ends of which are protruded considerably from the body-wall, and are invariably directed backwards. Length, 1.4 mm., breadth, 1 mm." ($\frac{1}{18}$ th inch by $\frac{1}{25}$ th inch).

Some portions of the above are descriptive of a specimen rather than of the species, and reference to the figure (Pl. XXV. fig. 7), which represents a fairly good example, will show at least that considerable margin must be allowed in many of the characters laid down by the author. The form in this case is a nearly symmetrical oval, the upper and lower portions tapering equally; the surface has but few projecting spicula, and the aperture is a small rounded perforation.

The record of the distribution of *Technitella melo* is limited to two localities. The figured specimen is from one of the Challenger dredgings in the South Atlantic,—Station 344, off Ascension Island, 420 fathoms; and those described by Mr. Norman were from the North Atlantic, south of the Rockall Bank, 1215 fathoms.

Technitella legumen, Norman (Pl. XXV. figs. 8–12).

Technitella legumen, Norman, 1878, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. i. p. 279, pl. xvi. figs. 3, 4.

Test free, elongate-oval or subcylindrical, commonly bent or otherwise asymmetrical; superior extremity rounded or truncate, often surmounted by a short, wide, tubular neck or collar, bearing the aperture; inferior extremity round, or more or less tapering and pointed. Aperture a simple round orifice. Colour white or light grey, except when the test is coated with sand. Length, $\frac{1}{10}$ th inch (2.5 mm.).