

IX. EUPLECTELLIDÆ—*continued*.

PAGE AND PLATE

The lateral wall of the sack or tube-like body is traversed by irregular parietal apertures of variable form and size, and is partially supported by a framework of united parenchymal spicules. The distal radial ray of the dagger-shaped hexact hypodermalia bears a floricome (TÆGERINÆ), . . . . . XVI.

X. EUPLECTELLINÆ.

With basal root-tuft. The parenchyma contains oxyhexasters (*Euplectella*, Owen), . . . . . XI.

Attached by a firm basis to solid bodies. The parenchyma contains discohexasters (*Regadrella*, O. Schmidt), . . . . . XII.

XI. *Euplectella*, Owen.

In each of the meshes which are formed by the intersection of the longitudinal and circular principal strands of fibres, there is a parietal pore. The parietal pores are thus arranged in regular transverse and longitudinal rows, . . . . .

*Euplectella owenii*, . . . . . 78  
VI.

Perforate meshes alternate, usually with some regularity, with imperforate, so that the parietal pores are disposed in oblique spiral rows or irregularly, . . . . . 1

1 Curved tube, with externally projecting ridges and superior annular cuff, . . . . .

*Euplectella aspergillum*, . . . . . 64  
I.-IV.

Straight tubes, without externally projecting ridges, . . . . . 2

2 In the middle of each parietal convexity, lying between every four parietal pores, there is a strongly developed oxyhexact, with a distal ray projecting for some distance outwards, . . . . .

*Euplectella cucumer*, . . . . . 76

Without these principal hexacts in the centre of the convex parietal elevation, . . . . . 3

3 The annular membrane of the parietal gaps contains sceptre-like monacts, . . . . . 4

No sceptres in the annular membrane of the parietal gaps, . . . . . 5

4 The annular membrane of the parietal gaps includes, besides the sceptres, S-shaped clasps, . . . . .

*Euplectella jovis*, . . . . . 77  
VI.

Without S-shaped clasps, . . . . .

*Euplectella suberea*, . . . . . 73  
V., VI.

5 The abundant parenchymal oxyhexasters have long and extraordinary thick principal rays, . . . . .

*Euplectella crassistellata*, . . . . . 81  
XIII.

Parenchymal oxyhexasters, not as yet observed, and therefore either very sparsely present or altogether absent, . . . . .

*Euplectella nodosa*, . . . . . 82  
XIV.