

yellow colour,<sup>1</sup> and in having slightly larger and decidedly stouter oxeote spicules (Pl. II. fig. 12), which measure about 0.45 by 0.022 as against 0.4 by 0.019 mm. There do not, however, appear to us to be sufficient differences to merit a distinct varietal name.

*Locality*.—Station 208, January 17, 1875; lat. 11° 37' N., long. 123° 31' E.; Philippine Islands; depth, 18 fathoms; bottom, blue mud. One specimen.

*Habitat*.—Port Darwin, North Australia (Ridley, "Alert"); Philippine Islands (Challenger).

*Petrosia hispida*, Ridley and Dendy (Pl. II. fig. 16; Pl. III. fig. 2).

1886. *Petrosia hispida*, Ridley and Dendy, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. xviii. p. 327.

Sponge (Pl. III. fig. 2) massive, sessile, subglobular or lobate, narrowing towards the base, bearing on the upper surface numerous small mammiform processes, each with a single round osculum at the summit. The larger of the two specimens measures 62 mm. in height by the same in breadth. *Colour* in spirit yellowish-grey. *Texture* firm and fairly compact, rather brittle. *Surface* uneven, minutely hispid. *Dermal membrane* difficult to make out, owing to the hispidity of the surface and the absence of a special dermal skeleton reticulation. *Oscula* very conspicuous, numerous small round openings, each on the summit of a volcano-like projection, remarkably constant in size, diameter about 1.5 mm. *Pores*, rounded openings scattered through the dermal membrane.

*Skeleton*.—No dermal reticulation. The main skeleton consists of a reticulation of spiculo-fibre, the primary lines being fairly distinct (sometimes five or six spicules broad), and running vertically to the surface, near which they are more distinct than elsewhere, and having their terminal spicules projecting for a short distance beyond the surface, thus causing the characteristic minute hispidity. The secondary lines are very confused and almost obliterated by numerous scattered spicules.

*Spicules*.—Smooth, slightly curved oxea (Pl. II. fig. 16), not very sharply but rather gradually pointed; size about 0.37 by 0.021 mm.

This species is distinguished by its beautiful and very characteristic external form and by its hispid surface; the spicules are rather large for the genus.

*Locality*.—Royal Sound, Kerguelen, January 17, 1874; depth, 25 fathoms. Two specimens.

#### Genus *Reniera*, Nardo (Pls. I., II.).

1847. *Reniera*, Nardo, Prospetto della fauna marina volgare del veneto estuario, Venice.

1864. *Isodictya, pars*, Bowerbank, Mon. Brit. Spong., vol. i. p. 197, &c.

Skeleton composed of definite, rectangular (sometimes triangular or polygonal), typically unispicular meshes. Spicules short oxea or strongyla, usually united together at the ends only by spongin.

<sup>1</sup> Perhaps due to a different mode of preservation.