

The genus *Spongomelissa* differs from its ancestral genus *Lithomelissa* only in the development of spongy framework in the shell-wall—a very rare production in the *Cyrtoidæa* (compare *Peripyramis*, p. 1162, and *Spongocyrtis*, p. 1188).

1. *Spongomelissa spongiosa*, Haeckel.

Lithomelissa spongiosa, Bütschli, 1882, Zeitschr. f. wiss. Zool., vol. xxxvi. pp. 519, 539, Taf. xxxiii. fig. 25, a, b, c.

Shell of dense spongy structure, with a deep collar stricture. The subspherical cephalis and the truncate abdomen of nearly equal size, both with irregular delicate spongy framework. Mouth wide open. Cephalis with a large vertical apical and a small oblique frontal horn. Thorax with three very stout, three-sided prismatic widely divergent lateral wings, which are covered with numerous irregularly ramified branches; the spongy framework arises by communication of the delicate branches.

Dimensions.—Cephalis 0·04 long, 0·05 broad, thorax 0·04 long, 0·06 broad.

Habitat.—Fossil in Barbados.

Genus 540. *Clathrocanium*,¹ Ehrenberg, 1860, Monatsber. d. k. preuss. Akad. d. Wiss. Berlin, p. 829.

Definition.—*Sethopilida* (vel *Dicyrtida triradiata aperta*) with three prominent lateral ribs on the thorax, alternating with three large holes (or thoracic gates). Cephalis with a horn.

The genus *Clathrocanium* is nearly allied to *Dictyophimus* and *Lithomelissa*, and, together with these two genera, may be regarded as surviving representatives of the oldest and most primitive forms of *Dicyrtida*. It differs from the latter mainly in the incomplete fenestration of the shell, three large interradiol holes remaining between the three perradiol thoracic ribs. It may therefore be derived either from *Euscenium* or from *Tripospyrus* by the development of a terminal lattice-band between the three feet. *Clathrocanium* may be divided into two different subgenera: *Clathrocanidium*, with simple horn and smooth mouth, and *Clathrocorona*, with fenestrated horn and coronated mouth.

Subgenus 1. *Clathrocanidium*, Haeckel.

Definition.—Horn of the cephalis simple, not fenestrated. Peristome smooth.

¹ *Clathrocanium* = Basket of network; κληθήρα, κάγιον.