

Habitat.—Prince of Wales Channel, Torres Strait; depth, 5 to 7 fathoms; bottom, sand and shells.

Remarks.—As according to Ridley the oxeas of this sponge are not collected into distinct fibres, it remains doubtful how far we are correct in assigning it to the genus *Coppatias*. But till the anatomy of the species belonging to this genus has been investigated, the position of all must be regarded as uncertain.

Demus III. STERRASTROSA.

Astrophora in which the characteristic microsclere is a sterraster.

Family I. GEODIIDÆ.

Sterrastrosa possessing triæne megascleres.

Subfamily 1. ERYLINA.

The megascleres are orthotriænes and rhabdi; anatriænes and protriænes are absent. The somal microsclere is a diactinose aster (microrabd) or spherule.

Genus 1. *Erylus*, Gray.

The sterraster is seldom spherical; the somal microsclere is a centrotylote microrabd. The incurrent chones are uniporal; and the oscule is the patent opening of a cloaca.

Erylus formosus, Sollas (Pl. XXVIII.).

Erylus formosus, Sollas, Prelim. Account, Sci. Proc. Roy. Dubl. Soc., vol. v. p. 195, 1886.

Sponge (Pl. XXVIII. figs. 1, 2).—Of irregular form, tending to grow into lobes and ridges, attached. Oscules round, situated on the top of ridge-shaped growths, or at the end of lobes, few. Pores comparatively large, with slightly everted margins, scattered separately over the surface, not collected into special areas; each is the single distal opening of an incurrent chone. The oscules lead into cloacas wider than themselves; the cloaca is divided below by vertical membranous partitions into large, excurrent canals.

Spicules.—I. Megascleres. 1. *Oxea* (Pl. XXVIII. fig. 3), fusiform, usually curved, not sharply pointed, 0.892 by 0.0237 mm.