Descriptions of some new Norwegian Polypes. By M. Sars.

1. *Briareum grandiflorum*; 2–3-pollicare, miniatum, basi effusa, tenui; ramis cylindricis, gracilibus, patulis, flexuosis et tortuosis, dichotomis; cellulis polyporum maximis (diametrum rami duplicem longitudine æquantibus), cylindricis, sparsis, ad apicem ramorum densioribus seu coacervatis; polypis non retractilibus.

Taken at Öxfjord in Finmark, at a depth of 200 fathoms, attached to living specimens of *Oculina prolifera*, to dead branches of *Primnoa lepadifera*, and to the tubes of *Tubularia indivisa*; often covering these objects with a coating of isolated polypiferous cells and ascending branches.

2. *Rhizoxenia filiformis*; 2–3-pollicaris, cinereo-albida; basi communi repente filiformi, diametrum cellularum polypiferarum conico-convexarum bis crassiorum longitudine bis–ter superante; polypis albis, retractilibus.

Taken once at Manger, at the depth of 30–40 fathoms, attached to a large stone. *Sarcodictyon catenata*, Forbes, also belongs to this genus.

3. *Virgularia finmarchica*; 40-pollicaris, sanguinea; stipite sterili crassiore, fusiformi, 6–7-pollicari; pinnulis utrinque 100–112, crassitudinem stipitis æquantibus vel paululum superantibus, semilunaribus, sessilibus, latera et faciem anteriorem stipitis oblique circumdantibus (dorso nudo relicto), seriem cellularum 8–10, spiculis densis fasciculatis farctarum, gerentibus.

Taken only at Öxfjord in Finmark, in the deepest part of the bay, at a depth of 240 fathoms, with the barren part of its stem buried in the mud. It is frequently brought up by the hooks of deep-sea lines.

Of the family *Pennatulidæ*, of which only three species are recorded as British by Johnston, no less than seven occur on the Norwegian coast. These are—

Pennatula phosphorea, Linn. (*P. rubra*, Ehrb., not Linn.)
Pennatula borealis, Sars.
Pennatula stellifera, Müller (*Kophobelemnon Mülleri*, Asbjörnsen, Fauna Litt. Norv. ii. p. 81).
Virgularia mirabilis, Müller.
Virgularia Christii, Koren and Danielssen.
Virgularia finmarchica, Sars.
Pavonaria quadrangularis, Blainville.

Genus Ulocyathus, Sars.

Polyparium calcareum, turbinatum, simplex, liberum, cum vestigiis adhæsionis (in ætate juniore) in basi brevissima, cuneiformi, adunca, acuminata. Costæ parum eminentes, interdum obscuræ. Calyx profundissimus, margine sinuato et crispo. Columella nulla, patuli nulli. Lamellæ radiantes (septa) tenuissimæ, altæ, super marginem calycis valde prominentes, tota longitudine discretæ. Animal simplex, actiniforme, ore plicis numerosis, seriebus tentaculorum conico-

subulatorum verrucosorum apice globoso lævi non retractilium pluribus (3–4) circumdato.

4. *Ulocyathus arcticus*, the only species, was taken at Öxfjord in Finmark, at a depth of 150–200 fathoms, perfectly free, upon a bottom of clay and mud. The largest specimen met with was $1\frac{1}{6}$ in. (Paris) in height and $1\frac{5}{12}$ inch in its largest diameter. The smallest specimen measured about $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch in each of these directions. The colour of the animal is bright minium-red, with the inner tentacles darker, and the folds of the mouth blood-red or brownish-red. The polype is quite solitary, and resembles an *Actinia* in appearance, but the base of the coral is naked.—*Fauna Littoralis Norvegiæ*, livr. ii. pp. 63–79.

Natural History of the Conway Reef.

By John Denis Macdonald, Assistant-Surgeon H.M.S. Herald.

Gasteropoda.—After a little search, we obtained one recent *Stomatella* of small size, with a white, polished shell; *Cypræa annulus* (young), and a species of *Vermetus*; but, besides these, no other living Gasteropods were observed, although it cannot be doubted that many exist. Amongst the dead shells, however, which had been washed up from the deeper parts, more especially on the northern side of the Sandy Islet, we noticed a great profusion of a species of *Turbo*, apparently identical with that which is so conspicuous in the elevated coral terraces of the Isle of Pines.

Examples of the following genera were also noticed, though in smaller quantity: viz. *Pyramis* and *Conus*, a very large species of each; *Conus generalis*, and one or two others; *Triton tritonis*, *Dolium perdix*, and *Cypræa*, several species.

Conchifera.—With the exception of the genus *Tridacna*, two species of which were everywhere to be found, no Conchifera seemed to exist on this reef.

Crustacea.—Species of the genera *Pisa*, *Portunus*, *Pyremela* and *Sesarma* were taken on the verge of the Sandy Islet, with a single member of the genus *Squilla*.

Annelida.—Dorsibranchiate and Tubicolous kinds numerous.

Echinodermata.—These embraced examples of the genera *Echinus*, chiefly occurring in the deeper parts amongst the branches of Madrepores, *Ophiocoma*, *Holothuria*, and *Sipunculus*, the latter belonging to the small coral-perforating division.

Turbellaria, Dendrocœla.—Planariæ of comparatively large size.

Phytozoa.—*Astræa*, *Caryophyllia* and *Madrepora* in great variety, with Nullipores and small Sponges.

Algæ.—Nearly all the Algæ are small, and require microscopic examination; the total absence of any of the larger kinds is very remarkable.

The Sandy Islet is mainly composed of disintegrated coral and marine shells; and in several superimposed and sloping layers of

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