A VERY REMARKABLE SPECIES OF *SPONGOPHYLLUM* FROM THE UPPER SILURIAN ROCKS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

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(Plates iv-vii.)

The subject of the present paper first came under my notice whilst engaged in a geological traverse of the Upper Silurian beds exposed in the course of the Yass River, between the town of the same name and the Devil's Punch-bowl, near the Yass-Murrumbidgee Rivers Junction. The specimens so obtained were subsequently augmented by additions made by Mr. A. J. Shearsby.

Genus Spongophyllum, *Edwards and Haime*, 1851[1]

(Polyp. Foss. Terr. Pal., 1851, p. 425.)

Spongophyllum enorme, *sp. nov.*

(Plates iv-vii.)

Sp. Chars.—Corallum compound, in the form of very large spreading masses with an uneven or undulating upper surface. Corallites very large, separating from one another on percussion, polygonal (quadrangular, pentagonal, or hexagonal), defined at the surface by grooves, and formed by a series of close-fitting invaginated cups, sometimes two and a half inches in diameter. Theca ill developed and often undefined. Calices funnel-shaped, moderately deep, flat bottomed, to some extent flattened around the peripheries, thence shelving inwards and downwards, average diameter one half to three quarters of an inch. Visceral chambers simply defined by the edges of inturned vesicular plates, and by successive repetition forming the general mass of each corallite. Septa numerous but weak, visible only as short laminæ around the edges of each calicular fossa passing for a brief distance on to the central, flat, tabulate area, and sometimes faintly continued over the funnel-shaped peripheral surfaces of the calices. Tabulæ incomplete, consisting of flat or slightly rolling close plates forming lenticular vesicles which pass insensibly into the general body of smaller vesicles forming the peripheral mass of each corallite.

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[1] Emended Schlüter.