

Verrill, were six to eight inches in length, and, where thickest, were three inches or more in diameter.

A common Mediterranean species is the *Veretillum cynomorium*; and it has been recently found, of a length of ten inches, in the depths of the Atlantic off the coast of Spain. Mr. W. S. Kent observes, with regard to its polyps and their phosphorescent qualities, as follows :—

“Nothing can exceed the beauty of the elegant opaline polyps of this zoöphyte when fully expanded, and clustered like flowers on their orange-coloured stalk; a beauty, however, almost equalled by night, when, on the slightest irritation, the whole colony glows from one extremity to the other with undulating waves of pale green phosphoric light. A large bucketful of these Alcyonaria was experimentally stirred up one dark evening, and the brilliant luminosity evolved produced a spectacle too brilliant for words to describe. The supporting stem appeared always to be the chief seat of these phosphorescent properties, and from thence the scintillations travelled onward to the bodies of the polyps themselves. Some of the specimens of this magnificent zoöphyte measured as much as ten inches from the proximal to the distal extremity of the supporting stalk, while the individual polyps, when fully exerted, protruded upward of an inch and a half from this inflated stalk, and measured as much as an inch in the diameter of their expanded tentacular discs.”

In several genera of the Pennatula tribe there are two kinds of polyps over the surface, and this was the case with the *Veretillum Stimpsoni*, as observed by Professor Verrill. Between the large and well-developed polyps, there were multitudes of small wart-like prominences, each of which proved to be a polyp, but very small and imperfectly developed, having only two lamellæ in the interior instead of the usual eight, and without distinct tentacles, or the ordinary nettling cords within.

Among the other forms of Zoöphytes in the Pennatula tribe are those having a stout axis, with branches either side, arranged regularly in plume-like style (the Pennatulidæ); or a very slender stem and very short lateral polyp-bearing