

they entirely free themselves, which they do when the number of tentacular feet on each arm has reached about twenty, they cluster in the re-entering angles between the arms of the mother, spreading a little way along the arms and on the dorsal surface of the disk; the young escape from the marsupium chiefly in the neighborhood of the angles between the rays. The madreporiform tubercle is visible in the young near the margin of the disk between two of the arms; but in the mature star-fish it is completely hidden by the paxilli, and no doubt it opens into the space beneath them.

We took *Leptychaster* in the act of bringing forth young on that one occasion only; and the weather was so boisterous at the time that it was impossible to trace the early stages in the development of the embryo. It is evident that the process generally resembles that described by Professor Sars in *Pteraster militaris*; and it is quite possible that, while there is certainly not the least approach to the formation of a locomotive bipinnaria, as in that species, some provisional organs may exist at an early period.

In "The Depths of the Sea" (p. 120) I noticed and figured a singular little star-fish from a depth of 500 fathoms, off the North of Scotland, under the name of *Hymenaster pellucidus*. This form was at that time the type of a new genus; but the researches of the last three years have shown that, with the exception perhaps of *Archaster*, *Hymenaster* is the most widely distributed genus of Asterids in deep water. It is met with (sparingly, it is true, only one or two specimens being usually taken at once in the trawl) in all parts of the great ocean; and it ranges in depth from 400 to about 2500 fathoms.

On the 7th of March, 1874, we dredged an extremely handsome new form, to which I shall give provisionally the name of *Hymenaster nobilis*, in lat. $50^{\circ} 1' S.$, long. $123^{\circ} 4' E.$, 1099 miles south-west of Cape Otway, Australia, at a depth of 1800 fathoms, with a bottom of globigerina ooze, and a bottom temperature of $0^{\circ} \cdot 3 C.$