

columns, rest upon the soft perisome, arcade-like spaces are left between the skin and the upper calcareous pavement. The eggs pass into these spaces from the ovarian openings: on bending the perisome and separating the facets, they may be seen in numbers among the shafts of the paxilli. There is a continual discharge of ova into the passages, so that eggs and young in different stages of development occupy the spaces at one time. The young do not escape until at least six ambulacral suckers are formed on each arm; they



FIG. 147.—*Leptychaster kerguelensis*, E. A. Smith. Off Cape Maclear, Kerguelen Island. Twice the natural size.

may then be seen pushing their way out by forcing the paxilli to the side, and squeezing through the chink between them. While it is extricating itself the oral surface of the young is always above: and the centre of the star with the mouth is usually the part which first protrudes; then the arms disengage themselves one after another, many of the brood remaining for a time with one or two arms free and the others still under the paxilli. When the young have become disengaged, they remain for a considerable time attached to the parent by the centre of the dorsal surface. I could never satisfy myself