

not on soft clay bottom ; all the individuals from stations in the open North Sea at considerable depths were very much lighter in colour and much larger than those taken along the Norwegian and British coasts. A good idea of the enormous quantities in which this form sometimes occurs was afforded by a haul with the dredge off Aberdeen, in 25 metres of water (temperature 10.26° C.), where they must have literally covered the bottom, and the same remark applies to the west coast of Jutland. In some localities we met with numbers of *Brissopsis lyrifera*, which prefers as a rule clay bottom in deep water at a tem-

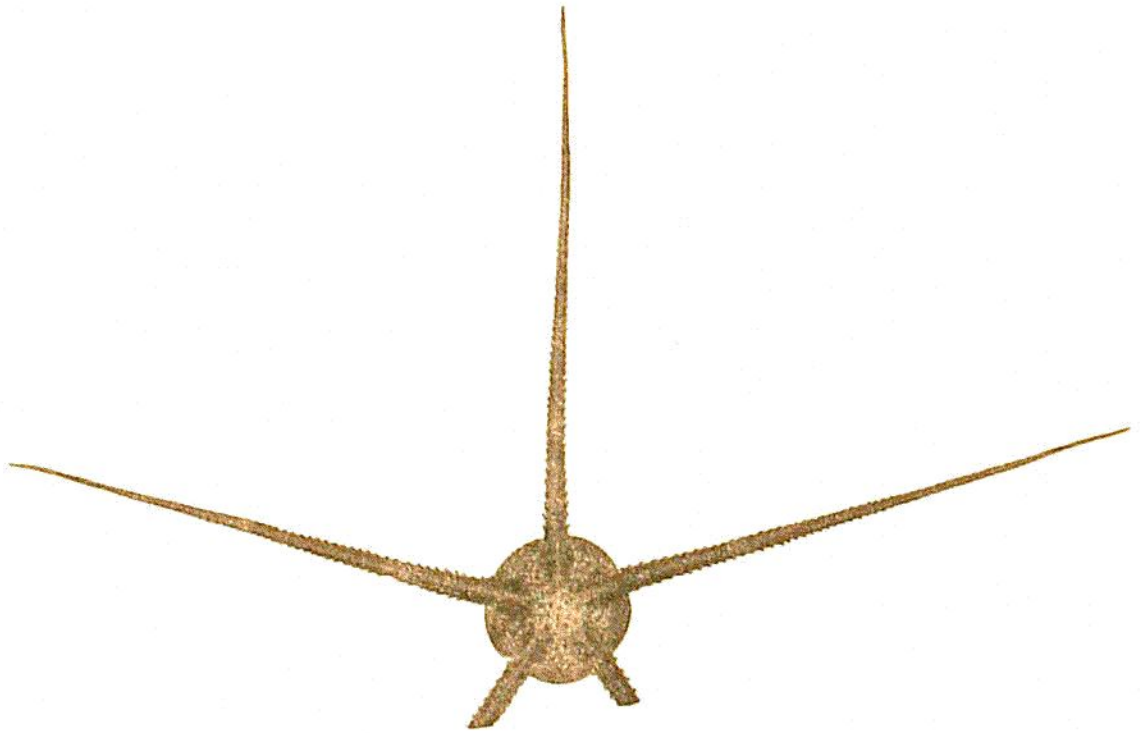


FIG. 347.
Ophiura ciliaris, L. Reduced.

perature of 6° or 8° C., though occasionally specimens may be found on sand. Everywhere, throughout the whole area examined, there were the two brittle-stars *Ophiopholis aculeata* and *Ophiothrix fragilis*, as well as the starfish *Luidia sarsi*, which are numerous here and there, but cannot be called characteristic forms. More local, though plentiful in places, were sea-slugs (*Cucumaria elongata*), which were met with at two stations, together with *Brissopsis*, on muddy bottom in about 50 metres, at a temperature of approximately 8° C.¹

¹ Of other echinoderms found at a few stations, in smaller quantities, I may mention *Ophiura albida* (only at one or two stations in the neighbourhood of the Danish coast and one station off Aberdeen in 25 metres) and *O. sarsi*, *Amphiura filiformis (chiajei?)*, *Ophiocten sericeum* (many young-stages in young-fish trawl east of Aberdeen in 62 metres, temperature 8.4° C., and also from the Norwegian depression), *Asterias mülleri*, *Solaster papposus* (only from the edge of the