and the like through Aërope, Aceste, and Cionobrissus, we can as readily trace the affinities of the family to the Spatangina proper through such genera as Palæotropus, Genicopatagus, and Homolampas, and again to the Galeritidæ and Echinolampadæ through such genera as Urechinus and Cystechinus, while the many-sided affinities of the Pourtalesiæ to the Ananchytidæ, Dysasteridæ, and such genera as Cardiaster, Holaster, Toxaster, and the like have been more or less insisted upon in the comparative description of the several genera of the family.

The fact that this group of Pourtalesiæ has existed undisturbed since the Chalk, and has been modified in so many different directions, makes this family one of the most interesting studies among the Echinids as far as relates to the affinities of the different groups of Spatangoids; and their examination has done much to bring out the close relationship existing between apparently most distant forms in the study of the fossil genera thus far discovered ranging from the Chalk to the present time.

The Ananchytid and at the same time the Galeritid affinities of the family are best shown in the structure of Cystechinus, in which we have a slightly sunken actinostome, no fascioles, a disconnected apical system, the plates of the test of nearly equal size in the ambulacra and interambulacra, a flat actinal region, a high conical test, and in some species a tendency in the plates surrounding the actinostome to develop into bourrelets or into an indistinct posterior labium. Such a genus as Urechinus, on the other hand, although most closely allied to Cystechinus, strikingly shows much more normal Spatangoid affinities; and such a genus as Calymne, while retaining structural features of Cystechinus, such as the uniform size of the coronal plates in all the areas, has an elliptical test, a strongly-marked actinal keel, again a most Ananchytid apical system, simple ambulacral pores, a circular actinostome, and on the other side, the rudiments of a peripetalous fasciole across the anterior extremity, a feature only found in those Spatangoids differing most widely from such genera as recall the Echinolampadæ or Clypeastroids.

Through Homolampas and Argopatagus, which at first glance so greatly resemble Spatangus proper, we can readily trace the relation of the Pourtalesiæ to the Spatangina. The simple ambulacral pores, the rudimentary petals, and the comparatively large ambulacral plates are Pourtalesian features, while the structure of the actinal surface, the presence of a subanal and peripetalous fasciole (in Homolampas fulva), the great development of some of the primary tubercles, and the prominently labiate actinostome, place this genus in close proximity to such genera as Lovenia, Maretia, Eupatagus, and Metalia.

Genicopatagus, on the contrary, shows most markedly the affinities of the family to Spatangoids with a prominent labiate actinostome; to such genera as Holaster, Cardiaster, and Toxaster the group becomes allied from the structure of the ambulacral areas above the ambitus; while the remarkable affinities of this genus to Paleopneustes and Palæotropus, from the structure of the ambulacral petals, as well as the total absence of fas-