Both this genus and Ophionephthys are apparently naked over most of the disk. It may be, however, that a minutely squamous coat is hidden under the integument.

Species of Ophionema not herein described.

Ophionema intricata, Ltk., Addit. ad Hist., part 3, pp. 27, 98, 1869. West Indies.

Ophionephthys.

Ophionephthys, Ltk., Addit. ad Hist., part 3, 1869.

Disk small, delicate, and a little puffed, and having long, slender, even arms. Its skin is apparently quite naked, except where there are rows of scales about the radia. shields, or along the margin. The mouth angles are small and short, and bear a few (four to six) small mouth papillæ. Four or five small arm spines. Two genital openings in each interbrachial space.

Species of Ophionephthys not herein described.

Ophionephthys limicola, Ltk., Addit. ad Hist., part 3, pp. 25, 98, 1869. West Indies.

Ophionephthys phalerata, Lym., Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., vol. iii., part 10, p. 229, pl. vi. figs. 7-9, 1874.

Philippines.

Ophiocnida.

Ophiocnida, Lym., Ill. Cat. Mus. Comp. Zool., No. i., 1865.

Disk small and delicate, furnished with uncovered radial shields, its coat of naked, overlapping scales is beset with small thorns or grains. Teeth. No tooth papillæ. Mouth angles short and small, bearing a few (four to six) little mouth papillæ. Arms long, slender, even, more or less flattened. Arm spines short and regular. Two genital openings in each interbrachial space.

Ophiocnida is Amphiura beset with small spines or grains, just as Ophiactis is Amphiura of a very robust structure with short wide arms. The three genera differ within themselves very much, and shade into each other on their borders; and they are almost as closely allied with Ophiopholis, Ophionema, Ophionephthys, Amphilepis, &c., as with each other. But, while as genera they are difficult to define, the species within the genera are curiously constant, well marked, and unvarying. In this they contrast with such a genus as Ophiothrix, well and clearly set off from its neighbour Ophiocnemis, but having species which are almost impossible of distinction.