

Dissection shows that Lütken was right, as against Ljungman and myself, in considering this genus (*Ophiactis clavigera*) nearer *Ophiacantha* than *Ophiactis*. Except in the lower interbrachial spaces, the skeleton and disk plates are more massive than in the former genus and the single peristomial plates are larger, so as even to form, in some cases, a closed ring round the mouth. The real generic distinction, however, is in the extremely thick external skin, and the comparatively ill-developed arm spines. So that its relation to *Ophiacantha* is about that of *Ophiolipus* to *Ophiomusium*.

See Plate XLI. fig. 8.

Ophiolebes scorteus, Lym. (Pl. XII. figs. 7-9; Pl. XLI. fig. 8).

Ophiolebes scorteus, Lym., Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., vol. v., part 7, p. 158, pl. vii. figs. 196, 197, 1878.

Four short blunt arm spines covered with thick skin, the upper one longest. Five feeble mouth papillæ to each angle. Radial shields like ridges and set with grains.

(Type specimen from Station 145.) Diameter of disk 7.5 mm. Length of arm about 23 mm. Width of arm close to disk, without spines, 1.5 mm. There may be seen on each angle the outlines of five small mouth papillæ, two widely separated on the sides, and one longer and more slender at the apex, all covered by a thick skin, which, when removed, shows them as long, cylindrical, and stout. The mouth shields, whose outlines may be vaguely seen, are small triangular, with an angle inward and outer edge curved. Side mouth shields hidden by skin, which, when removed, shows them long and narrow, meeting within, and nearly or quite joining without, between first and second arm plates, so as to form a continuous line about the mouth. First under arm plate diamond-shape; the rest are pentagonal, with an angle inward and a notch without, but are hidden by thick skin. No side or upper arm plates visible, but on removing the skin, the latter are seen to be small, triangular, and separated by the side plates. Disk round and arched, covered by a thick skin which in the centre is irregularly wrinkled. Radial shields like long narrow ridges covered with a thick skin and set with small flat grains; the brachial and interbrachial spaces have the skin more or less wrinkled, and often with a few grains; the lower interbrachial spaces have the same thick, somewhat wrinkled skin. There are on the first three joints three arm spines; beyond this there are four: they are short, stout, and microscopically thorny, with blunt points, and are covered with thick skin; the upper spines being longest. No tentacle scales and apparently no tentacles beyond the basal joints. Colour in alcohol white.

Station 145.—December 27, 1873; lat. 46° 40' S., long. 37° 50' E.; 310 fathoms.
Station 147.—December 30, 1873; lat. 46° 16' S., long. 48° 27' E.; 1600 fathoms;
globigerina ooze.