A large number of recently discovered species are associated together by community of character in the genus *Pontaster*.

The following scheme will serve as an index of reference to their "special marks":-

Synopsis of the Species included in the Genus Pontaster herein described.

Symptom by the Species therease the the defined I cannot be	
A. Adambulacral plates with a secondary series of two or more spines.	
a. Secondary spines on adambulacral plates large and robust; in oblique trans-	
verse series. With more or less well-developed dorsal spines on the	
supero-marginal plates.	
a. One infero-marginal spine and sometimes a small companion. With	
no large spines on the disk. No comb-formed pedicellariæ.	
u. With narrow marginal plates confined entirely to the lateral	
wall.	
i. With pedicellaria. Disk large, rays much expanded	
nt the base	tenuispinus.
ii. With no pedicellarise. Disk small, rays not much	
expanded at the base.	
1. With very fine needle-like spinulation .	planeta.
2. With robust truncate spines	hebitus.
β. With broad marginal plates forming a well-defined border	
on the abactinal surface. No pedicellarise	limbatus.
b. Three infero-marginal spines. With large spines on the disk. With	
comb-formed pedicellariae	oxyacanthus.
b. Secondary spines on the adambulacral plates small, and equal to the furrow	16 6 .5 8
series; in two converging series. With no dorsal spines on the	
supero-marginal plates, or only small ones here and there.	teres.
B. Adambulacral plates with a secondary series consisting of only one large conical	
spine.	
a. With narrow supero-marginal plates.	
a. With quadrivalvate pedicellaria. Paxilla well-developed, with	
several spinelets.	
a. Pedicellariæ numerous on the abactinal surface, and on the	
actinal surface extending along the my on the infero-	
marginal plates. Infero-marginal plates with close	
conical granulation. No secondary lateral spinolet .	forcipatus.
 Pedicellariæ few, only present on the actinal interradial area. 	
Infero-marginal plates almost naked. A well-developed	
secondary lateral spine present	mimicus.
b. No pedicellarim. Paxille on the outer part of the ray represented	
only by a squamous plate with a single central spinelet.	pristinus.
b. With broad supero-marginal plates. No quadrivalvate pedicellaria.	
a. Dorsal spines on the supero-marginal plates long, tapering and	
robust.	
a. Paxillæ with a central spine, often long and conical. No pedicellariæ. Actinal intermediate plates present	
β. Paxillæ with no central spine, simple. Comb-formed pedi-	venustus.
cellariss. No actinal intermediate plates	4m.llimas
b. No dorsal spines, only tubercles. No pedicellarise present.	trullipes. subtuberculatus.
o. No dorsar spinos, om, substant. No petitentime present	STATE WOOT CHARACTERS.