

structure, I have considered it desirable to place them apart; the value of the characters, in the present state of our knowledge of the *Plutonaster* group of species, appearing to justify their being ranked as a subgenus.

1. *Tethyaster subinermis*, Philippi, sp.

Asterias subinermis, Philippi, Archiv f. Naturgesch. Jahrg. iii. Bd. i. 1837, p. 193.

Astropecten subinermis, Müller and Troschel, System der Asteriden, 1842, p. 74.

Archaster subinermis, Perrier, Nouv. Archives Mus. Hist. Nat., 2^e Sér. 1878, t. i., pp. 33, 57, 88.

Localities.—The Mediterranean area. (Algiers, Naples, Nice, Messina, Sicily.)

2. *Tethyaster parelii*, Düben and Koren, sp.

Astropecten Parelii, Düben and Koren, K. Svensk. Vet.-Akad. Handl., År 1844 (Stockholm, 1846), p. 247, tab. vii. figs. 14–16.

Archaster Parelii, Sars, Oversigt af Norges Echinodermor, Christiania, 1861, p. 35, tab. 3, figs. 1 and 2.

Localities.—"Porcupine" Expedition:

Station 31. Between the north of Ireland and Rockall. Lat. 56° 15' N., long. 11° 25' W. Depth 1360 fathoms. Bottom temperature 2°·9 C.; surface temperature 13°·8 C.

In Sir Wyville Thomson's popularly written *Depths of the Sea*, the occurrence of this species is specially mentioned on at least two other occasions (*loc. cit.*, pp. 122, 181), but the exact localities are not given, and I have not seen any other specimens in the collections placed in my hands excepting the one under notice.

Other localities.—Finmark, Lofoten, Coast of Norway, off Shetland.

Genus *Lonchotaster*, Sladen.

Lonchotaster, Sladen in Narr. Chall. Exp., 1885, vol. i. p. 609.

Disk rather large. Rays moderately elongate and comparatively narrow, tapering to a finely pointed extremity. Interbranchial arcs wide and openly rounded.

Marginal plates small, short, and numerous, more or less confined to the lateral wall of the ray. Supero-marginal plates smaller than those of the inferior series. Infero-marginal plates short and broad. The plates of both series covered with low granule-like papillæ, often somewhat squamiform, invested more or less with membrane (succulate). No prominent spines on either series. Large incipient pedicellarian apparatus on most of the infero-marginal plates, and on some of the plates of the superior series.

Abactinal area with numerous small closely-packed paxillæ, composed of small, erect, skin-covered papillæ, and often bearing a pedicellarian apparatus. Abactinal plating circular. The paxillæ present no definite order of arrangement. Papulæ regularly distributed.