

*Chorology of the Genus Craspidaster.**a. Geographical distribution:—*

PACIFIC and EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO: One species between the parallels of 0° and 40° N.

Craspidaster hesperus off Japan and China, and in the Eastern Archipelago.

β. Bathymetrical range: Appears to be confined to the Littoral zone: 20 fathoms is the greatest depth recorded.

γ. Nature of the Sea-bottom: Mud.

Chorological Synopsis of the Species.

	Ocean.	Range in Fathoms.	Nature of the Sea-bottom.
<i>Craspidaster hesperus</i>	{ Pacific and Eastern Archipelago. }	20	Mud.

1. *Craspidaster hesperus*, Müller and Troschel, sp. (Pl. XVII. figs. 5-7; Pl. XVIII. figs. 1-4).

Archaster hesperus, Müller and Troschel, 1840, Monatsber. d. k. Akad. d. Wiss. Berlin, p. 104; System der Asteriden, 1842, p. 65.

Stellaster sulcatus, Möbius, 1859, Neue Seesterne des Hamburger und Kieler Museums, p. 11, Taf. iv. figs. 1 and 2 (Abhandl. a. d. Gebiete Naturw. hrsg. v. d. naturwiss. Verein, Hamburg, Bd. iv. Abth. 2, 1860).

Rays five. $R=53 + \text{mm.}$ (the terminal plate being broken off in all the rays of the largest specimen); $r=15 \text{ mm.}$ Breadth of the ray across the second supero-marginal plates, 14.5 mm.

General form depressed and rigid. Rays moderately long and flat, tapering from the base to the extremity, which is not attenuated or sharply pointed. Interbrachial arcs wide and well rounded. Abactinal surface plane. Actinal surface plane. Margin well rounded; lateral walls highest in the interbrachial arc, decreasing gradually towards the end of the ray.

The abactinal surface of the disk and rays is covered with paxillæ of a rather peculiar form, which I have not observed in any other species. In the immediate centre of the disk the paxillæ are small, crowded, and individually indistinguishable; they also diminish greatly in size as they proceed along the ray, but remain perfectly distinct, and though closely placed throughout, in no way interfere with one another's form by crowd-