

mm., have fully developed spines on all the supero-marginal plates, excepting the second and third, and are quite recognisable specifically.

Lütken¹ has also supported the view of the independence of the species by giving a description of a much larger example than that discovered by von Martens.

13. *Astropecten granulatus*, Müller and Troschel (Pl. XXXV. figs. 3 and 4; Pl. XXXIX. figs. 4-6).

Astropecten granulatus, Müller and Troschel, 1842, System der Asteriden, p. 75.

Locality.—Station 188. In the Arafura Sea, between Cape York and Frederick Henry Island. September 10, 1874. Lat. 9° 59' 0" S., long. 139° 42' 0" E. Depth 28 fathoms. Green mud. Surface temperature 78°·5 Fabr.

Remarks.—Although I have had the opportunity, through the kindness of Professor Schlegel and Dr Jentink, of comparing Müller and Troschel's original type-specimens of *Astropecten granulatus*, from the Leyden Museum, side by side with the single example obtained by the Challenger, it is not without some hesitation that I refer the latter to that species. It is, however, without any doubt most nearly related to that form, and as the differences are very slight, and appear to me quite of secondary character, such as might in great measure be accounted for by differences of locality, I have considered it preferable, owing to the scantiness of the material, to refer the specimen under notice directly to Müller and Troschel's *Astropecten granulatus*. The adoption of that course is further warranted by the fact that so far as I am aware no other examples except the types are known to exist, and their locality is unknown.

The type-form is well and accurately described by Müller and Troschel, with the exception of the statement that the supero-marginal plates bear small spines: "Die dorsalen Randplatten sind höher als breit, in den Winkeln der Arme sehr hoch, tragen kleine Stacheln und sind überall grob granulirt."²

No spines or even rudiments of spines exist, or have existed, upon the supero-marginal plates of the type-specimens, which are well preserved, and are literally "überall grob granulirt." I would venture to suggest that in the passage quoted above, the word "kleine" is a misprint for "keine." With this amendment the diagnosis would stand correct.

The Challenger specimen, which is smaller than either of the types, differs in having rather shorter and broader rays; and the supero-marginal plates are plane or nearly so abactinally, whilst in the type they have a decidedly tumid appearance.

It may further be noticed that these differences are probably greatly emphasised by the fact that the type-specimens are dried and considerably shrunk, whilst the specimen under notice is in spirit and well preserved. In the Challenger example the armature of the

¹ Videnskab. Medd. naturh. Foren. i Kjøbenhavn, 1871, p. 237.

² System der Asteriden, p. 75.