

ences from that type presented by the example under notice are considerable, and scarcely fall within the range of what might be expected in the young phases of the species referred to, I have considered it the safest course to regard the form in question as a distinct species, at least until other specimens are obtained which may throw light upon the relationship of these nearly allied forms. The following characters may be noticed in comparison with those of *Nymphaster protentus* as given in the foregoing description.

In the armature of the adambulacral plates, the furrow series accord in their manner of disposition with those of *Nymphaster protentus*, but are not compressed; the number on the plate is also rather less, five or six being present on those near the mouth, and eight or nine about the middle of the ray. The adambulacral plates are comparatively broader, especially near the mouth, and there is no external series of spinelets as in *Nymphaster protentus*, their place being occupied by a row of granules similar in all respects to those which stand on the outer part of the plate. There are thus three longitudinal series of equal-sized granules behind the furrow series on the inner half of the ray (reduced to two near the middle), and there are usually five or six granules in each series. In harmony with these modifications in the appendages of the adambulacral plates, the armature of the mouth-plates is less echinulate than in the larger form *Nymphaster protentus*.

Within the abactinal paxillar area, the plates of the median radial line, and the two parallel series on each side are oval or subcircular in outline instead of being hexagonal; this shape at least being clearly defined by the marginal series of granules; the latter are semiglobular and surround a central group of five or six granules on the middle of the tabulum. This small number forms a marked contrast to the closely crowded granulation of the plates in *Nymphaster protentus*; and, what is still more striking, the granules themselves are comparatively larger in *Nymphaster albidus*, which is the smaller form.

The supero-marginal plates in the inner part of the interbrachial arc are very tumid on the lateral wall of the disk, and extend beyond, and appear to overhang, the infero-marginal series. When the lateral wall of the disk is placed in the direct line of view, the line of suture which separates the superior and inferior series of marginal plates is seen to take a bold and well-defined curve, with the convexity downwards, in the inner part of the arc,—the supero-marginal plates thus encroaching on the inferior series, the height of the former being considerably greater. This formation does not, however, affect the general thickness of the marginal wall taken as a whole.

On the actinal area of the disk there is a considerable amount of inflation and the surface is convex; there is also a slight depression of triangular form on the outer part of the actinal interradial area in the neighbourhood of the interradial line and bounded by the inner margin of the infero-marginal plates. Both the superior and the inferior series of marginal plates along the ray have their greatest dimension in the length, whilst in *Nymphaster protentus* above described the supero-marginal plates are broader than long until