

B. Marginal plates equal to or smaller than the other plates.

- a. Papulæ distributed throughout the abactinal area. Abactinal plates thick, crescentiform, devoid of internal processes ASTERININÆ.
- a. Abactinal plates not imbricated; covered with spines *Patiria*.
- b. Abactinal plates imbricated throughout the abactinal area, or only in definite regions.
- a. Rays cylindrical, more or less elongata. Disk small. With a definitely and sharply defined band of crescentiform plates along the median area of the rays *Nepanthia*.
- β. Rays and body flat. Disk large.
- i. Abactinal plates more or less imbricated throughout, and bearing spinelets at the free edge, or covered with granules. All the abactinal plates subsimilar *Asterina*.
- ii. Abactinal plates imbricating only near the margin, the others spaced apart; covered with naked skin *Disasterina*.
- b. Papulæ confined to the radial regions. Abactinal plates in the median regions stellate. Abactinal plates thin, scale-like, with elongate internal prolongations PALMIPEDINÆ.
- a. Abactinal plates bearing tufts of spinelets. No membrane or granules. Papulæ in a single row on each side of the median radial line *Palmipes*.
- b. Abactinal plates covered with membrane, bearing granules. No tufts of spines. Papulæ in several rows on each side of the median interradial line *Stegaster*.

Subfamily GANERINÆ, Sladen, 1888.

Genus *Cycethra*, Bell.

Cycethra, Bell, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond. 1881, p. 96.

This genus was established by Professor Jeffrey Bell for the reception of a starfish discovered by Dr Coppinger in Trinidad Channel during the surveying voyage of H.M.S. "Alert" in the Strait of Magellan and on the coast of Patagonia. The remarkable combination of characters presented by that form was noticed by Bell, and duly referred to in his description; and the new species appear to fully bear out the "mixed" character of *Cycethra* as regards its morphological relationships. The genus would seem to have a limited distribution, but appears to possess a considerable amount of specific plasticity within that area. Its alliance to the very local genus *Ganeria* is striking, and when the two forms are studied together, I think there will remain little doubt that *Cycethra* and *Ganeria* are near neighbours in the zoological scale as well as in geographical position.