

Colour in alcohol, greyish white.

Locality.—Station 144A. Off Marion Island. December 26, 1873. Lat. $46^{\circ} 48' 0''$ S., long. $37^{\circ} 49' 30''$ E. Depth 69 fathoms. Volcanic sand. Surface temperature $41^{\circ} 0$ Fahr.

Remarks.—This species is remarkable for the manner in which it simulates the structure of *Retaster* in the character of the supradorsal membrane and also, though to a less degree, in the character of the web and of the investment of the spines constituting the adambulacral armature. These points distinguish *Pteraster semireticulatus* from all other species of *Pteraster* with which I am acquainted.

Genus *Retaster*, Perrier.

Retaster, Perrier, Nouv. Archives Mus. Hist. Nat., 1878, 2e Série, t. i. p. 56.

Diplopteraster, Verrill, Amer. Journ. Sci. 1880, vol. xx. p. 400.

Although the differences which separate *Retaster* from *Pteraster* are comparatively slight superficially, their constancy and their morphological significance appear to me to justify generic recognition. If I am right in referring *Pteraster multipes* to this genus (as I think I am) the name *Diplopteraster*, proposed by Verrill, will fall as a synonym of later application.

Chorology of the Genus Retaster.

a. *Geographical distribution*:—

ATLANTIC: Three species between the parallels of 70° N. and 60° S.

Retaster multipes, off the coasts of Norway and North America, extending as far south as Cape Hatteras. *Retaster capensis*, from the Cape of Good Hope. **Retaster verrucosus*, near the entrance to the Strait of Magellan.

INDIAN OCEAN: One species between the parallels of 0° and 30° S.

Retaster cribrosus from Zanzibar and Mozambique; and extending to the Philippine Islands.

SOUTHERN OCEAN: One species between the parallels of 45° and 55° S.

**Retaster peregrinator*, from Kerguelen Island.

EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO: Two species between the parallels of 20° N. and 20° S.

Retaster cribrosus, from the Philippine Islands and extending into the Indian Ocean to the east coast of Africa. **Retaster insignis* from Torres Strait and the Banda Sea, and extending to Port Molle (*fide* Bell).

PACIFIC: Two species between the parallels of 20° and 60° S.

**Retaster gibber*, off the western coast of Patagonia. **Retaster insignis*, off Port Molle (*fide* Bell), and extending into the Eastern Archipelago.