

Chorology of the Genus Mithrodia.

a. *Geographical distribution* :—

ATLANTIC : One species between the parallels of 15° and 25° S.

Mithrodia victoriæ, off the Victoria Bank, east coast of Brazil.

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

**Mithrodia clavigera*, from Mauritius, and extending into the Eastern Archipelago and Pacific.

EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO : One species between the parallels of 20° N. and 10° S.

**Mithrodia clavigera*, from Java, Flores, and the Moluccas, and extending into the Indian Ocean and Pacific.

PACIFIC : Two species between the parallels of 30° N. and 30° S.

**Mithrodia clavigera*, from the Fiji Islands, Samoa Islands, Tahiti, and Sandwich Islands, and extending into the Eastern Archipelago and Indian Ocean. *Mithrodia bradleyi*, from the western coast of the American continent, extending from California to Panama.

β. *Bathymetrical range* : Shallow water to 39 fathoms.

γ. *Nature of the Sea-bottom* : *Mithrodia clavigera* on coral reefs ; *Mithrodia victoriæ* on dead coral ; *Mithrodia bradleyi* on rocks.

The species collected by the Challenger is indicated by an asterisk in the above list.

Chorological Synopsis of the Species.

| | Ocean. | Range in Fathoms. | Nature of the Sea-bottom. |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Mithrodia bradleyi</i> . . . | Pacific. | Shallow water. | Rocks. |
| <i>Mithrodia clavigera</i> . . . | { Indian, Eastern Archi- pelago, and Pacific. } | Shallow water. | Coral reefs. |
| <i>Mithrodia victoriæ</i> . . . | | 39 | Dead coral. |

1. *Mithrodia clavigera* (Lamarck), Perrier.

Asterias clavigera, Lamarck, 1816, Hist. nat. anim. s. vert., t. ii. p. 562.

Mithrodia spinulosa, Gray, 1840, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., vol. vi. p. 288.

Ophidiaster echinulatus, Müller and Troschel, 1842, System der Asteriden, p. 32.

Heresaster papillosus, Michelin, 1844, Revue Zoologique, p. 173 ; Mag. de Zool., 1845, p. 19, pl. ix.

Echinaster echinulatus, v. Martens, 1866, Archiv f. Naturgesch., Jahrg. xxxii. Bd. i. p. 59.

Mithrodia echinulata, Lütken, 1871, Videnskab. Medd. natur. Foren. i Kjøbenhavn, p. 266.

Mithrodia clavigera, Perrier, 1875, Révis. Stell. Mus., p. 114 (Archives de Zool. expér., t. iv. p. 378).

Locality.—Kandavu, Fiji Islands. On the reefs.