

following passage in Pausanias where *Anthedon* occurs as the name of a nymph (ix. 22, 5):—

“Τῆς δὲ Βοιωτίας τὰ ἐν ἀριστερᾷ τοῦ Ἑυρίπου, Μεσσάβιον ὄρος καλούμενον, καὶ ὑπὸ αὐτῷ Βοιωτῶν ἐπὶ θαλάσσης πόλις ἐστὶν Ἀνθήδων. γενέσθαι δὲ τῇ πόλει το ὄνομα οἱ μὲν ἀπὸ Ἀνθήδονος νύμφης, οἱ δὲ Ἀνθῶνα δυναστεύσαι λέγουσιν ἐκταῦθα, Ποσειδῶνός τε παῖδα καὶ Ἀλκυόνης τῆς Ἄτλαντος.”

“That part of Bœotia which lies on the left of the Euripus is called the Messabian Mountain, and below it on the coast is a town of the Bœotians called Anthedon. Some say that the town was called after a nymph Anthedon, others that Anthon a son of Poseidon and Alcyone daughter of Atlas reigned there.”

It is clear, however, that although *Antedon* is etymologically incorrect, De Fréminville's spelling of the name must be retained; but at the same time the question of its gender may be regarded as finally settled.

*Remarks.*—De Fréminville's definition of *Antedon*, like those of *Alecto* by Leach and of *Comatula* by Lamarck, would apply almost equally well to all the various forms of Feather-stars. But that given by Mr. Norman<sup>1</sup> is of a much more limited character, as it commences with the words “Mouth central. Anus lateral.” This character alone was sufficient to separate *Antedon* from Müller's genus *Actinometra* as defined by Dujardin and Hupé three years before, but we now know four other genera of Endocyclic Comatulæ.

The essential characters of the calyx of *Antedon* have been fully explained already, and there is therefore no need to refer to them again. It is distinguished from *Pro-machocrinus* by the presence of five rays only, and from *Eudiacrinus* by the fact that these rays divide so that there are ten primary arms, which may themselves divide again. The presence of pinnules on the arm-bases and the lateral union of the radials distinguish *Antedon* from the two remaining genera of recent Endocyclic Comatulæ, *Atelecrinus* and *Thaumatocrinus* respectively; while the want of a comb on the oral pinnules, the presence of sacculi, and the central mouth distinguish it very clearly from *Actinometra*.

The oral pinnules of *Antedon* are extremely variable in their characters. In some species, such as *Antedon multispina*, and *Antedon angustipinna*, they are comparatively small and insignificant (Pl. XIII. fig. 1; Pl. XXIX. fig. 1). In others like *Antedon gracilis*, *Antedon valida*, *Antedon incerta* and *Antedon lusitanica* they have a number of short, but very wide basal joints, and are therefore somewhat massive in appearance (Pl. XII. fig. 3; Pl. XV. fig. 6; Pl. XVIII. fig. 5; Pl. XXXIX. fig. 2). In *Antedon occulta*, and in a large number of similarly bidistichate species, they are stiff and styli-form and stand up round the edge of the disk as if to shield it from danger, a character which Lütken has expressed in the specific name *Antedon protecta*. They are more slender and flexible and consist of much elongated joints in *Antedon longipinna* and *Antedon*

<sup>1</sup> *Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.*, 1865, ser. 3, vol. xv. p. 101.