

2. *Antedon disciformis*, n. sp. (Pl. IV. figs. 2, *a-d*; Pl. XXXIX. fig. 4).

Specific formula— $A.2.\frac{b}{b}$.

Centro-dorsal a thick pentagonal disk, with an irregular row of marginal cirri and the dorsal surface free. Fifteen to twenty cirri, of twenty-five to thirty joints, several of which are longer than wide. The fourth or fifth joints project beyond their successors on the dorsal side, and the following joints gradually develop a sharp forward-projecting spine at their distal edge; as the joints shorten this comes to be placed further and further back, and is both shorter and more upright.

First radials mostly concealed; the second oblong and quite free laterally; axillaries pentagonal, nearly twice their length. The rays are well separated and may divide twice. Two distichals; the first nearly oblong, and the axillary without a syzygy. Fifteen to twenty arms of about one hundred and twenty smooth and rounded joints, the first few discoidal and their successors triangular, about as wide as long, gradually becoming more quadrate. A syzygy in the third, and then between the eighth and fourteenth brachials; others at intervals of one to five joints.

The second brachial has a slender pinnule of about eighteen short joints, but little longer than wide; but the third brachial has no pinnule. The next pair are rather stouter and much longer than the first pinnule, reaching 12 mm., and consisting of twenty elongated joints, the apposed edges of which are somewhat produced towards the ventral side. The pinnule on the sixth brachial may be of nearly equal size or distinctly smaller, and its successors diminish in length to about the tenth brachial, and then increase, becoming exceedingly slender in the outer parts of the arms.

Disk naked and rather incised, with a few sacculi, which are very abundant along the ambulacra of the arms and pinnules.

Colour in spirit,—the skeleton almost white, and the perisome grey or brownish.

Disk about 8 mm.; spread probably 15 cm.

Locality.—Zebu Reefs. Six specimens and one fragment.

Remarks.—This species, while resembling *Antedon manca* in its spiny cirri and in the absence of a pinnule on the third brachial, differs from it altogether in having no palmar axillary, and in the constant presence of a pinnule on the second brachial. The rays being quite free laterally, it stands rather near to *Antedon marginata* (Pl. XL.), resembling it also in the elongated joints, in the great size of the pinnules on the fourth and fifth brachials, and in the absence of a palmar axillary, though sharply distinguished from it by the want of a pinnule on the third brachial and by the very spiny cirri.

The extreme flatness of the centro-dorsal and the limitation of the cirri to its margin, so as to leave the dorsal surface free (Pl. IV. fig. 2*a*), recall the characters of *Actinometra*;