

laterally; the rays and their subdivisions are well separated from one another. Three distichals, the axillary a syzygy. Palmar and post-palmar series of two joints, the axillary with a syzygy. Forty to sixty-five arms, of one hundred and twenty to one hundred and fifty joints, the first few nearly oblong; the following ones overlapping and shortly triangular, with coarsely spinous distal edges. From about the fortieth onwards, the joints become more oblong, as the arms narrow, and their terminal joints are squarer. The anterior arms may be slightly the longer.

A syzygy in the second brachial; the next from the fifteenth to thirtieth, usually about the twentieth, with others at intervals of four to eight, usually five or six, joints.

The pinnules on the second distichals are nearly 30 mm. long, and moderately stout at the base, but soon become more slender. The following pinnules are on the first joints after each axillary, and the length decreases to those of the fifth and sixth brachials which are not specially small. Their successors increase again slowly. The lowest pinnules have a large terminal comb, which may extend out to the fifteenth brachial; and the edges of the pinnule joints are fringed with spines.

Mouth radial or nearly so; disk naked or with a few calcareous nodules.

Colour in spirit,—blackish-brown.

Disk 15 mm.; spread 25 cm.

Locality.—Banda; two specimens.

Other Localities.—Moluccas (Quoy and Gaimard).

Remarks.—This fine species cannot well be confounded with any other *Actinometra*, the only form which at all approaches it being *Actinometra multiradiata*, in which, however, there are normally no post-palmars, while the cirri do not have more than twenty-six joints.

I have only seen three specimens of *Actinometra sentosa*, one which was brought from the Moluccas to the Paris Museum by Quoy and Gaimard, and the two dredged at Banda by the Challenger. The Paris specimen was referred by Müller¹ to the type of *Asterias multiradiata*, Linn., his final diagnosis of the species differing but little from his previous description of the Retzian type, except that he gave the number of cirrus-joints as twenty to thirty instead of simply twenty-four; while he described forty to fifty arms, instead of thirty to forty, the number assigned by Retzius. The latter change involved the presence of post-palmar axillaries, to which, however, Müller made no reference.

I was at first inclined to follow Müller's example, and to describe the two Challenger individuals under the name *Actinometra multiradiata*;² but I have since examined a greater variety of specimens, and have come to the conclusion that the larger number

¹ *Abhandl. d. k. Akad. d. Wiss. Berlin*, Jahrg. 1847 [1849], p. 261.

² *Journ. Linn. Soc. Lond. (Zool.)*, 1882, vol. xvi. p. 521.