

points from the types of *Comatula parvicirra* and *Comatula timorensis*, so that I was for a long time inclined to regard it as specifically distinct; but I have at last been obliged to abandon this view, and now consider the type as another variety of *Actinometra parvicirra*.

Grube's description of his *Comatula mertensi*¹ only differs from those of *Comatula parvicirra* and *Comatula timorensis* in one essential point. He states that there are but "2 Radialia, das Axillare mit Syzygium." Were this really the case, his type would be most closely allied to *Actinometra distincta* of the *Typica*-group. But, having been enabled by the kindness of Professor Schneider, Grube's successor at Breslau, to examine the types of this species for myself, I can state positively that there are three radials with a bifascial articulation between the second and third, as in most *Comatulæ*; while in all other respects the characters of the type are those of *Actinometra parvicirra*, and Grube's name is therefore reduced to the rank of a synonym.

During his residence in the Philippine Islands, Professor Semper collected several examples of an *Actinometra* with thirteen to thirty-nine arms, on which, believing it to be new to science, he bestowed the MS. name *armata*. This name was employed by myself in a couple of anatomical papers,² though I subsequently found reason to replace it by *polymorpha*,³ when giving a detailed description of the type, which did not appear to me to be absolutely identical with the Vavao variety of *Actinometra parvicirra*. Further experience, however, has convinced me that the two forms cannot be separated specifically, and I must also refer to the same variable type the dry specimen in the Hamburg Museum which I have noticed as *Actinometra meyeri*.⁴ The same may be said of the *Actinometra annulata* of Bell,⁵ in whose diagnosis I can find no single point of specific value by which this type can be distinguished from the *Actinometra polymorpha* which I had described some years previously, and had subsequently referred to *Actinometra parvicirra*, Müll., sp.;⁶ while as Bell gave no hint of his views respecting the relationship of his new species, his reasons for establishing it are somewhat obscure.

Some of the specimens which have been distributed by the Godeffroy Museum under the name *Actinometra mutabilis*, Lütken, MS., must also be referred to *Actinometra parvicirra*, e.g., No. 6146, from Moreton Bay, Fiji. There is a tridistichate individual from the Nicobar Islands which I found under this name in the Copenhagen Museum, and I subsequently saw a similar form at Vienna. The arm-joints are rather long in both cases, and without making a renewed examination of the specimens I should not like to

¹ 53e Jahresber. der Schlesisch. Gesellsch. f. Vaterl. Cult., 1875, p. 74.

² Journ. of Anat. and Phys., 1876, vol. x. p. 582; vol. xi. p. 91.

³ Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond. (Zool.), ser. 2, 1877 [1879], p. 50.

⁴ Journ. Linn. Soc. Lond. (Zool.), 1882, vol. xvi. p. 525.

⁵ Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1882, p. 535.

⁶ Notes from the Leyden Museum, 1881, vol. iii. p. 204.