

Notwithstanding its want of completeness this arrangement has a good deal to recommend it; a particularly good distinction is the primary one into Psilodermata and Pycnodermata. The Stellifera would include our *Myriastr*a and *Anthastr*a; the Bacillifera the single genus *Ecionema*, Bwk.

The Discifera are equivalent to the genus *Erylus* of the Geodiidæ; the Globostellata to the new genus *Aurora*.

In redistributing the contents of the family, regard has been paid to the general assemblage of characters, and the genera now proposed will, I think, prove to be natural; there are some which are more doubtful than others, on account of their being founded either on single species or on single characters; such are *Astell*a, distinguished from *Stellet*a by possessing but one form of aster; *Anthastr*a, distinguished from *Myriastr*a by the presence of a second aster (the anthaster). The grouping of the genera into subfamilies depends chiefly on the characters of the asters.

Subfamily 1. Homasterina; Stellettidæ which never possess more than one form of aster.

- a. Ectosome not a cortex—*Myriastr*a.
- b. Ectosome a fibrous cortex—*Pilochrota*, *Astell*a.

In the remaining genera more than one form of aster is present, they may therefore be termed "heterastrose."

Subfamily 2. Euasterina; heterastrose Stellettidæ in which the additional microsclere is a euaster.

- a. Ectosome not a cortex—*Anthastr*a.
- b. Ectosome a fibrous cortex—*Stellet*a, *Dragmastr*a.
- c. Ectosome crowded with large spherasters, but not fibrous—*Aurora*.

Subfamily 3. Rhabdasterina; heterastrose Stellettidæ in which the additional microsclere is a microrabd.

- a. Ectosome not a cortex—*Ecionema*.
- b. Ectosome a fibrous cortex—*Psammastr*a.
- c. Ectosome crowded with microrabds—*Papyrula*, *Algol*.

Subfamily 4. Sanidasterina; heterasterose Stellettidæ in which the additional microsclere is a sanidaster or amphiaster.

- a. Skeleton radiately arranged, ectosome a fibrous or fibro-spicular cortex—*Ancorina*, *Tribrachium*, *Disyringa*, *Tethyopsis*.
- b. Skeleton with no regular arrangement, ectosome a spicular not a fibrous cortex—*Stryphnus*.