

“ Twenty-six genera of Starfishes have been found living in depths greater than 1000 fathoms, and all but eight of these were discovered by the Challenger.

“ In the abyssal depths beneath this limit in the Atlantic the Archasteridæ predominate; in the Pacific, on the other hand, the Pterasteridæ and Porcellanasteridæ are the most conspicuously represented; whilst the Asterid fauna of the great Southern Ocean holds somewhat of an intermediate character between the two.

“ In the Atlantic the Pterasteridæ are represented by the genus *Hymenaster* (fig. 202), which in the South Atlantic at Station 325 descends to a depth of 2650 fathoms. At the

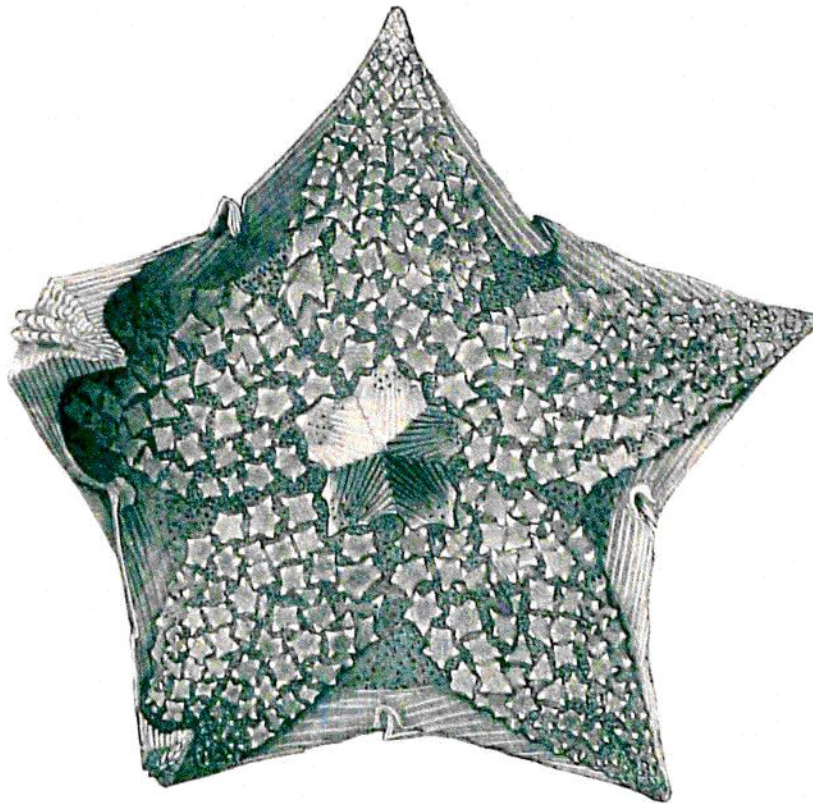


FIG. 202.—*Hymenaster sacculatus*, Sladen. Abactinal aspect. Slightly enlarged.

same Station was dredged the genus *Dytaster*, an Archasterid type with a more or less inflated disk, and having very long attenuate rays, subcarinate along their median dorsal line, and very slightly flexible. The marginal plates, which form a square vertical wall, are granulated, and each plate of either series bears one thin, thorn-like spine. Abactinal area covered with small rounded scale-like plates, bearing pseudo-paxillæ which form a closely-packed covering, in which no order of arrangement is discernible. Papulæ distributed over the whole area. Actinal interradial areas well developed, with plates arranged in more or less definite columns. Armature of the adambulacral plates in longitudinal