

omitted from the category which have representatives in other areas at depths less than 1000 fathoms. The latter occurrences have, for the sake of brevity, not been referred to in the present notes.

“It may be remarked that the distribution of the deep-water Asterids fully supports the views already propounded by Mr. Murray that abyssal depths near to continents are more prolific in the number of genera and variety of forms than are similar depths in mid ocean remote from land.

“Mention only can be made here of the fact that a further and special interest attaches to the abyssal forms living under these conditions of isolation, on account of their furnishing a more striking presentment of archaic and permanent pseudembryonic characters than any other recent Asterids with which we have hitherto been acquainted.

“It is scarcely necessary to state that the importance of the collection is not confined to the deep-water Asterids only, as many valuable additions have been made to the fauna inhabiting much shallower waters than those referred to in the foregoing notes, and several interesting new genera have been discovered. Amongst these may be named *Pholidaster*, a form allied to *Zoroaster*, of which two species were dredged in the Malay Archipelago in depths between 100 and 130 fathoms. It differs from the latter genus in having peculiar naked primary plates on the disk and along the median radial line, margined by flat, skin-covered squamules; the other plates being covered with similar uniform squamules, and the ventro-laterals with regularly-disposed, small, delicate, elongate, and slightly flattened spinelets.

“*Peribolaster* is an interesting form obtained off the western coast of Patagonia at Station 304 in a depth of 45 fathoms. This Asterid is at first sight suggestive of a large species of *Korethraster*, but is readily distinguished by the reticulated abactinal skeleton, composed of cruciform ossicles; by the fasciculi, which upon the rays have seldom more than four spinelets in each, being enveloped in a membranous sheath; and by the immense madreporiform body.

“*Leptogonaster* is a handsome Goniasterid genus with large thin pentagonal disk, slightly inflated; and well produced flat tapering rays with a widely rounded interbrachial angle. The marginal plates form a bevelled angular margin, with three or four short conical spinelets at the line of junction of the superior and inferior series, in the curve of the angle, but decreasing in number outwards. The whole of the abactinal surface is granulated and the plates are marked out by very numerous papulæ. A few peculiar pincer-formed sessile pedicellariæ are found here and there on the surface. Actinal interradiial areas covered with membrane through which the thin hexagonal plates are hardly visible; each of those in the series immediately behind the adambulacral plates bearing a large well-developed tubercle, which is greatly diminished in size or wholly wanting in the other plates of the area. The armature of the adambulacral plates consists of a semicircular furrow series of five or six radiating spines with one equal-