

have extremely bent legs and claws, the naked snails have their flexible foot-discs and the planarians their rhabdites, so that these creatures furnish excellent examples of adaptability to external conditions. A bodily structure of this kind is necessary for these forms, or when exposed to the action of the waves or currents they would run the risk of being torn from the objects to which they cling.

The marine algæ are known to be rather particular about the localities they select. Some species grow high up on the

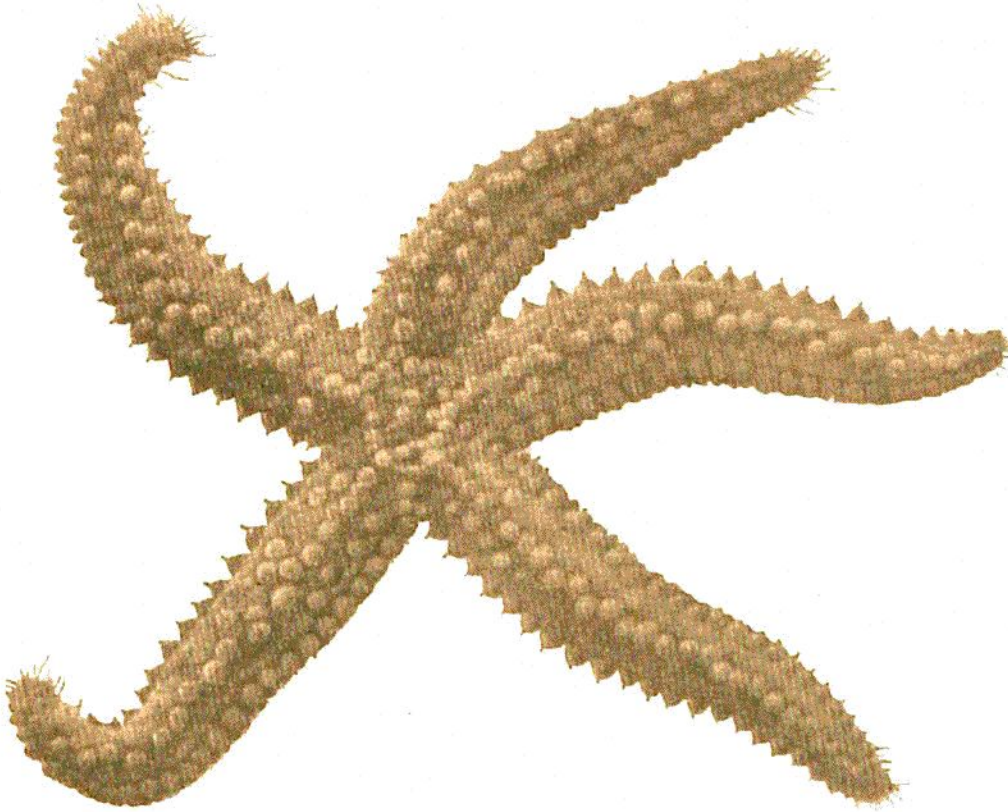


FIG. 334.

*Asterias glacialis*, L. (After Ludwig.)

rocks so as to be covered only at high tide, while others choose the lowest limit of ebb-tide; some prefer sunlight, while others thrive only away from it; some grow best amidst the waves and breakers, while others need sheltered places. This is, to some extent, true also of the animal forms of the upper littoral zone, many of which prefer the open parts of the coast, while others live in sheltered localities, and others again where the currents are strong. The three bryozoans *Alcyonidium*, *Flustrella*, and *Bowerbankia*, for instance, seem to prefer shelter and a good current, whereas *Membranipora pilosa* flourishes best in the laminaria belt, in exposed places where *Laminaria hyperborea*