

bone, in a way that brings to mind *Ophiothrix*. *Ophionereis* is found in shallow tropical waters all over the world, and yet is remarkable for its few species and their close resemblance.

See Plate XL. figs. 13–15.

TABLE OF SPECIES OF *Ophionereis*.

Always three arm spines.	{	Disk scales very fine and thin, 13–15 to a millimetre in centre of upper disk, and in interbrachial spaces below, . . . . .	}	<i>Ophionereis dubia</i> .
		Extremely like <i>Ophionereis dubia</i> save in colour (a purple patch outside mouth shields, and in general light yellowish). In young perhaps disk scales are coarser, . . . . .		<i>Ophionereis reticulata</i> .
		Very like <i>Ophionereis reticulata</i> , except middle arm spine usually longer; disk scales of young coarser. Colour olive, with purple arm bands, . . .		<i>Ophionereis annulata</i> .
		Scaling coarsest of all, with numerous larger scales. At centre of disk about 9 in the length of a millimetre. Young with scales decidedly thickened, . . .		<i>Ophionereis porrecta</i> .
4 arm spines.	{	Scaling about the same as in <i>Ophionereis dubia</i> , . . . . .	}	<i>Ophionereis schayeri</i> .
		Scaling coarser than in the preceding species, with more large scales, . . . . .		<i>Ophionereis albomaculata</i> .

*Ophionereis dubia*, Lym., Ill. Cat. Mus. Comp. Zool., No. i. p. 149, 1865; V. Martens, Wieg. Archiv, vol. xxxvi. p. 246.

*Ophiure*, Savigny, Descr. de l'Égypte Echin., pl. i. figs. 3<sup>1</sup>–3<sup>10</sup>, 1809–25.

*Ophiolepis dubia*, Müll. & Tr., Syst. Ast., p. 94.

*Ophionereis crassispina*, Ljn., Oph. Viv. Öf. Kong. Akad., p. 311, 1866.

Professor P. M. Duncan<sup>1</sup> writes this species *Ophionereis dubia*, Audouin. Here is one more example of the troubles that come from placing authorities according to honour or credit, instead of using them as parts of an exact and convenient system of registration. Anybody who is acquainted with the tradition of the Jardin des Plantes knows that Audouin is not entitled to the "credit of discovery and exact representation." Savigny discovered the species and had it drawn. When, after long delay in the publication, Savigny broke down, Audouin was appointed to edit this part of the work. His editing was such as only Carlyle could properly describe!

It is hardly needful to add that a student, seeing the name *Ophionereis dubia*, Audouin, might well hunt for a week, only to find at last that Audouin never called it by either of those names, did not describe it, and, in fact, knew nothing about it.

Fiji Islands, same species? Gomera, Canary Islands, same species? Amboyna; 100 fathoms.

<sup>1</sup> Linn. Soc. Jour. Zool., vol. xiv. p. 464.