

the end of the ray the papillæ are turned back and directed slightly over the furrow, instead of being closed down upon the surface of the plate, and the pit is probably aborted.

The mouth-plates form a rather broad mouth-angle, presenting a well-developed keel along the median line of junction, more or less imperfectly closed along the suture and widely open at the aboral extremity. A single, short, conical, sharply pointed mouth-spine to each mouth-angle stands at the innermost point, and in the median line. Two large segmental papillæ occupy nearly the whole of the lateral portion of each mouth-plate; they stand close together, touching one another, and the aboral one is the larger of the two. (See Pl. XXVII. fig. 6.)

The actinal interradial areas are small, and the squamous intermediate plates are comparatively few in number, these being rather large in the immediate angle, though very narrow and elongate near the margin.

Colour in alcohol, greyish white, excepting the abactinal membrane, which is bluish grey.

Locality.—Station 298. Off the western coast of South America, between Valparaiso and the Island of Juan Fernandez. November 17, 1875. Lat. $34^{\circ} 7' 0''$ S., long. $73^{\circ} 56' 0''$ W. Depth 2225 fathoms. Blue mud. Bottom temperature $35^{\circ} 6$ Fahr.; surface temperature $59^{\circ} 0$ Fahr.

Remarks.—This species is distinguished from *Porcellanaster crassus*, the only other form having segmental pits and papillæ, by its short and delicate rays, by its comparatively unarmed supero-marginal plates, and by the limitation of the spinelets on the abactinal surface to definite areas.

6. *Porcellanaster cremicus*,¹ n. sp.

Since my preliminary notices on the species of *Porcellanaster*² were written I have received a very young form which had been found in a bottle of other material that had been sent to America. It is without doubt a *Porcellanaster*, and at a very early stage of growth. The measurements are $R = 6.5$ mm.; $r = 3.25$ mm. The form appears to be nearly related to *Porcellanaster cæruleus*, and the most striking, if not the only real specific difference that I can detect at this stage is that the rays are longer, more attenuate, and thinner throughout.

At such an obviously early phase it would serve no good end to endeavour to draw up a specific diagnosis which would enable the adult stages to be recognised when found. I shall therefore limit myself to some remarks on the interesting features presented by this example. As I feel convinced, however, from the characters shown by the young form, and from the isolation of the habitat, that the species is distinct, I have ventured to assign a name to it. This course will also facilitate reference.

¹ ἰσημερινός, accustomed to solitude.

² *Journ. Linn. Soc. Lond. (Zool.)*, 1883, vol. xvii. p. 214.