

the same time, ranked *Nepanthia* only as a subgenus under *Asterina*. In my estimation, however, the structure and arrangement of the skeletal elements, the general form as a whole, the tegumentary appendages, and the character of the armature of the adambulacral plates, warrant the retention of *Nepanthia* as an independent genus.

Chorology of the Genus Nepanthia.

a. *Geographical distribution* :—

EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO : Two species between the parallels of 20° N. and 20° S.

**Nepanthia brevis*, in Torres Strait. **Nepanthia maculata* in the Arafura Sea, and from Migupou (*vide* Gray).

β. *Bathymetrical range* : The two species of which the conditions of the locality are known are confined to shallow water, the greatest depth recorded being 28 fathoms.

γ. *Nature of the Sea-bottom* : *Nepanthia brevis* is found on Shell sand and Coral mud, and *Nepanthia maculata* on Green mud.

The locality and conditions of habitat of *Nepanthia belcheri* are unknown ; it is therefore not included in the foregoing list.

The species collected by the Challenger are marked with an asterisk.

Chorological Synopsis of the Species.

	Ocean.	Range in Fathoms.	Nature of the Sea-bottom.
<i>Nepanthia belcheri</i>	?	?	?
* <i>Nepanthia brevis</i>	Eastern Archipelago.	8	Shell sand, Coral mud.
* <i>Nepanthia maculata</i>	Eastern Archipelago.	28	Green mud.

1. *Nepanthia brevis*, Perrier (Pl. LXIII. figs. 3-5).

Asterina (Nepanthia) brevis, Perrier, 1876, Révis. Stell. Mus., p. 321 (Archives de Zool. expér., t. v. p. 241).

Locality.—Station 186. North of Cape York, Torres Strait. September 8, 1874. Lat. 10° 30' 0" S., long. 142° 18' 0" E. Depth 8 fathoms. Coral mud. Surface temperature 77°·2 Fahr.

Remarks.—Only a single example of this interesting but well-marked form was dredged by the Challenger. I have given drawings of it, as the species is little known.