

the supero-marginal series, and sometimes on the intermediate abactinal series of plates; and one or more longer, delicate, tapering spines are usually present on each of the actinal intermediate plates.

Adambulacral plates small and quite within the furrow, and each alternate plate may be produced and form a prominent ridge which extends far into the furrow (this character probably only fully developed in the adult). Adambulacral armature consisting of several elongate spines placed in single file along the edge of the ridge; and one or two small ciliary spinelets at the extreme edge of the plate. The intermediate non-prominent plates bear only this small group of ciliary spinelets, and are devoid of spines on the surface of the plate within the furrow.

Madreporiform body small and inconspicuous, placed external to an interradial (basal) plate.

Anal aperture small, excentric, surrounded by a circlet of small ciliary spines.

Small forficiform pedicellariæ are present on the abactinal surface, one or occasionally two being borne on the membrane in each mesh punctured by the papulæ. Several small forficiform pedicellariæ are attached by membrane to the innermost spine of the armature of the adambulacral plates.

Ambulacral tube-feet small, with a fleshy terminal disk; forming four rows.

*Remarks.*—This genus was known hitherto only from the Atlantic; a new form has, however, been added by the Challenger from the Eastern Archipelago. All the species are from great depths.

#### *Chorological Synopsis of the Genus Zoroaster.*

##### *a. Geographical Distribution:—*

ATLANTIC: Five species between the parallels of 60° N. and 10° S.

\**Zoroaster fulgens*, in the Faerøe Channel, off the coast of Morocco, and the Sahara; off the coast of North America; and off Pernambuco. *Zoroaster longicauda*, off the Azores, Senegal, and the Sahara. *Zoroaster diomedæ*, off the coast of North America. *Zoroaster ackleyi* and *Zoroaster sigsbeeii*, from the Gulf of Mexico, the former off Montserrat and Santa Cruz, the latter off St Kitts, and in lat. 28° 42' N., long. 88° 40' W. (The reference of *Zoroaster sigsbeeii* to this genus seems to me doubtful.)

PACIFIC: One species between the parallels of 0° and 10° S.

\**Zoroaster tenuis*, off the coast of New Guinea.

##### *β. Bathymetrical range: 38 to 2326 fathoms.*

*Zoroaster fulgens*, *Zoroaster longicauda*, and *Zoroaster tenuis* are confined to the Abyssal zone. *Zoroaster diomedæ* extends from the Littoral zone