

Anal aperture large, subcentral, surrounded by five or six subtubercular papillæ.

Ambulacral tube-feet, which are arranged in two rows, have a large, flat, fleshy terminal disk.

No pedicellariæ of any kind are present.

Remarks.—The character of the abactinal and actinal plating, the remarkable fasciculated spinulation of the abactinal plates, and the character of the armature of the adambulacral plates, together with the absence of papulæ on the abactinal surface, at once distinguish *Korethraster* from all other genera at present known. The morphological structure of the form has led Drs Danielssen and Koren¹ to place *Korethraster* in a distinct family, which they established for its reception (*Korethrasteridæ*), but although I do not feel prepared to oppose that course, I hesitate for the present about following it, and until more is known of the anatomy of this and allied forms, I prefer to leave the genus in the family *Solasteridæ*, as classified by Perrier, placing it, however, in a sub-family.

Several starfishes dredged during the "Blake" Expedition have been referred by Perrier to this genus, and were originally described² as representing two distinct species under the names of *Korethraster palmatus* and *Korethraster radians*; the latter was subsequently placed,³ however, by its author under the name of *Korethraster hispidus*, but so far as I can judge from the description given, and no figure, I am inclined to think that this is certainly not the same as Wyville Thomson's *Korethraster hispidus*; and I feel very great doubt indeed as to whether either of the forms belong to the genus *Korethraster* at all. For the same reason, owing to insufficient description, I am reluctantly compelled to place a third form, described by Perrier⁴ under the name of *Korethraster setosus*, in the same category of uncertainty. On these grounds I have not included the forms mentioned in my consideration of the chorology of the genus *Korethraster* given below.

Chorology of the Genus Korethraster.

a. *Geographical distribution* :—

ATLANTIC : One species between the parallels of 60° and 80° N.

Korethraster hispidus, in the Faerøe Channel, off the coast of Norway, and south of Franz-Josef Land.

¹ Den Norske Nordhavs-Expedition, 1876-1878, Zoologi, xi. Asteroidea, 1884, p. 99.

² *Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool.* Harvard, 1881, vol. ix. No. 1, p. 12.

³ *Nouv. Archives Mus. Hist. Nat.*, 1884, 2e Série, t. vi. p. 212.

⁴ Rapport sur les Travaux de la Commission chargée par M. le Ministre de l'Instruction publique d'étudier la Faune sous-marine dans les grandes profondeurs de la Méditerranée et de l'Océan Atlantique, par M. Alphonse Milne-Edwards, Membre de l'Institut (Extrait des *Archives des Missions scientifiques et littéraires*. Troisième série. Tome neuvième. Paris: 1882), p. 51.