

Colour in alcohol, a bleached yellowish grey.

Locality.—Off Yokohama, Japan. Depth 5 to 25 fathoms.

Remarks.—This species is characterised by the isolated abactinal spinelets, with the high-mounting, abruptly terminating, sheath of membrane surmounted by a wreath of pedicellariæ, and by the presence of the oblique series of three spinelets on the actinal plates immediately external to the adambulacral plates. The general facies of the form is different from that of the other pentactinid species of *Asterias*.

There is an example of this species in the Leyden Museum, from Japan, collected by Von Siebold, which I have had the opportunity of studying through the kindness of the late Professor Schlegel and Dr. Jentinck. It is labelled "*Asteracanthion rubens*," and is stated to have been determined by Troschel; the presence of examples of that species from Japan in the Leyden collection being recorded in the *System der Asteriden* (p. 17). I find two figures, but rather unsatisfactory, of this example on the proof of one of the unpublished plates of *Echinodermata* intended for the "*Fauna japonica*" (*Echinodermata*, Tab. vi. figs. 3 and 4). This section, unfortunately, was never completed. Other examples of *Asterias* in the same collection, labelled "*Asteracanthion rubens*," also brought by Von Siebold from Japan, and probably determined at the same time as the above, are the *Asterias amurensis* of Lütken.

5. *Asterias glomerata*, n. sp. (Pl. CV. figs. 1-4).

Rays five. $R = 95$ mm.; $r = 14$ mm. $R < 7r$. Breadth of a ray near the base, 17 mm.

Rays elongate, thick, robust, broad at the base, tapering to the extremity, which is pointed but not attenuated. Lateral walls nearly vertical. Rays slightly convex abactinally. Disk small, the rays appearing crushed together at their base. Interbranchial arcs acute.

The abactinal plates present no definite order of arrangement, though an irregular and often much angulated median radial line may frequently be more or less clearly traced. Each plate bears a single, short, moderately robust, truncate spinelet surrounded by from five to eight or nine large pedicellariæ with vesicular bases, the whole group having the appearance of a more or less prominent tuft of coarse papilliform granules, the central spinelet being most prominent. In the interspaces between the tufts are numerous, closely crowded papulæ, and large forficiform pedicellariæ are present here and there. The abactinal area is bounded by a regular longitudinal series of supero-marginal plates, which bear a single spinelet and resemble the abactinal plates above described, excepting that the spinelet is rather more prominent and more robust, and the encircling group of pedicellariæ rather larger. In large specimens two spinelets are occasionally present about the middle or towards the extremity of the ray. Between the supero-marginal and infero-marginal series of plates is a wide space devoid of spinelets, which stands in the vertical