

*Other Localities.*—Cape of Good Hope; Port Natal; Ceylon; Nicobar Islands (?); Australian Seas (Péron and Lesueur); Timor; Solor; North Borneo; Sooloo; China Sea; Yedo; Zebu; Bohol; Ubay; Cabulan; Batjan; Ceram; H.M.S. "Alert," Warrior Reef, Torres Strait, and Port Molle; Kingsmills Islands; Moreton Bay, Fiji; Vavao; Peru.

*History.*—This name was given by Müller to an individual from some unknown locality which was found by Troschel in the Paris Museum. It had twenty-seven arms, owing to the presence of both distichal and palmar series, and twenty cirri of twelve joints. Müller's description of it in his final memoir<sup>1</sup> does not differ essentially from that which was drawn up for him by Troschel in 1841;<sup>2</sup> but he added to it a more detailed diagnosis, based on his own observation, of a specimen from Vavao which he was inclined to refer to the same type.

Although on two occasions I have searched carefully through the large *Comatula*-collection in the Paris Museum, a privilege for which I am indebted to the kindness of Professor Perrier, I have been unable to identify the original type of Müller's species. The number of arms, twenty-seven, mentioned by him, is larger than that in some individuals from the voyage of Péron and Lesueur which certainly belong to this species, though I do not think that they can be the type of it as I formerly suggested. But I can find no reference to them in any of Müller's writings, though he must certainly have seen them when at Paris; while they must also have been known to Lamarck, who founded other species on *Comatulæ* obtained by Péron and Lesueur.

Although, however, Müller's first type specimen seems to have disappeared, the second one, that from Vavao, is in excellent condition. It was obtained by Hombron and Jacquinot in 1841, during the voyage of the "Astrolabe," and is fortunately not dry, but preserved in spirits. Had Müller been able to visit the Paris Museum himself in 1840, he would probably have recognised the identity of the form which he called *Alecto parvicirra* with that which he found in the Leyden Museum under the name of *Comatula timorensis*. The two species were described on successive pages of the Berlin Monatsbericht for 1841, but I cannot regard them as different; and though the diagnosis of *Comatula timorensis* is better than that of *Comatula parvicirra*, which precedes it, I have preferred to retain the latter name, not on account of its one-page claim to priority, but because it expresses a definite character of this widely distributed type, and does not connect it with any particular locality.

Two years after making his first communication on the subject of *Comatula*-species, Müller described a twenty-armed form from Natal in the Stockholm Museum under the name "*Alecto Wahlbergii*."<sup>3</sup> It has no palmar series, and further differs in several minor

<sup>1</sup> *Abhandl. d. k. Akad. d. Wiss. Berlin*, Jahrg. 1847 [1849], p. 256.

<sup>2</sup> *Monatsber. d. k. preuss. Akad. d. Wiss. Berlin*, 1841, p. 185.

<sup>3</sup> *Archiv f. Naturgesch.*, 1843, Jahrg. ix. Bd. i. p. 131.