

the summit of the interbrachial angle, with prominent boss and very large spine. Abactinal area covered with squamiform plates, bearing one to three spicules (spinelets); no true paxillæ; no definite order of arrangement. Papulæ confined to the area at the base of the rays. Actinal interradial areas with very few ventral plates; in some cases apparently wanting altogether, but these may only be young forms. Armature of adambulacral plates consisting of a semicircular furrow series of small uniform spines, radiating fan-like, with one or more large, conical, outer spines. Madreporiform body close to the odd interradial plate. Peculiar comb-like pedicellariæ frequently present.

“Associated with the above-mentioned genera at Station 46 is an interesting little Starfish which appears to hold an intermediate position between *Ilyaster*, recently described by Danielssen and Koren, and such forms as *Bathybiaster* and *Psilaster*. It also occurs at Station 44 in 1700 fathoms. This genus, which is named *Phoxaster*, resembles in

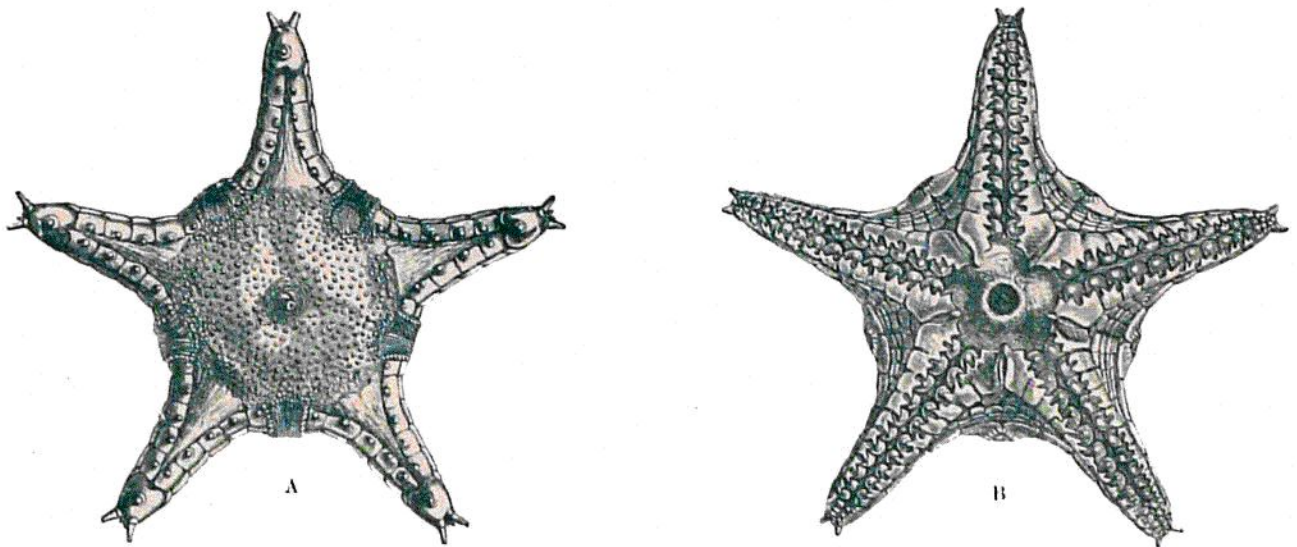


FIG 205.—*Porcellanaster caruleus*, Wyv. Thoms. A, abactinal aspect; B, actinal aspect. Natural size.

miniature the outline of the northern species of *Psilaster*; the sides of the rays being, however, comparatively deeper and more vertical. The marginal plates are covered with uniform squamules and are devoid of any larger spinelets whatever. The actinal interradial areas are covered with squamiform spinelets encased in membrane, simulating those on the marginal plates. A well-defined dorsocentral protuberance or epiproctal cone is present, but by no means so specially developed as in *Ilyaster*. The character of the adambulacral armature is intermediate between that of *Ilyaster* and *Psilaster*.

“*Psilaster* is a genus which includes the well-known North Atlantic form originally described under the name of *Astropecten andromeda*, Müller and Troschel. The Challenger has discovered several allied species, but in the Atlantic none are found at so great a depth as 1000 fathoms.