

Distichal and palmar pinnules large and stout, composed of forty to fifty joints, the second one rather the longer. Their lower joints are large but not specially marked; the following ones diminish in size, but gradually develop a projection of the dorsal edge at their distal end, which disappears in the smaller terminal joints. The third and following pinnules decrease rapidly both in length and in stoutness, after which the length slowly increases again.

Disk-ambulacra protected by a well-developed calcareous plating which ceases at the arm bases; anal tube also considerably plated, but the other interpalmar areas are unprotected.

Colour in spirit,—skeleton brownish-white, and the perisome mottled with grey. Sæculi very abundant on the pinnules.

Disk 17 mm., spread about 20 cm.

Locality.—Station 186, September 8, 1874; Torres Strait; lat. 10° 30' S., long. 142° 18' E.; 8 fathoms; coral mud. One specimen.

Remarks.—Only one example of the species was obtained by the Challenger, but it did not come into my hands with the rest of the collection, having been given by Sir Wyville Thomson to the National Museum at Stockholm, where I found it in August of last year (1886), and Professor Lovén has since been kind enough to send it over to England for my further examination.

A larger specimen of the same type was obtained in 1881 at Port Molle, Queensland, by H.M.S. "Alert," and was described by Professor F. J. Bell,¹ together with some smaller individuals already in the National Collection from Nicol Bay, Australia.

There was a very important omission, however, in Bell's description; for he entirely overlooked the fact that the two outer radials are united by syzygy, a character which, next to those of the genus, is of primary importance for systematic purposes. His description and figure rather led me to suspect the presence of this character long before I saw the Challenger specimen, and my suspicions were verified when I examined his types for myself. He likewise makes no mention of any axillaries beyond the post-palmars, although such must be present to bring the number of arms up to ninety, the number which he describes in the adult, while several quaternary arms are represented in his figure. His specific formula must be altered therefore from A.3.3.(3). $\frac{c}{c}$.

A.R.3.3.3.3. $\frac{c}{c}$.

It is the presence of this fourth axillary above the radials which is one of the characters distinguishing this species from *Antedon multiradiata*. I have not seen any specimen without it, though it is much more frequent in the individual from Port Molle than in those from Nicol Bay and Torres Strait. These last resemble one another in having a smaller number of cirrus-joints and a better-developed penultimate spine than in the type.

¹ "Alert" Report, p. 163, pl. xv.