

This family comprises the genera *Anthenea*, *Goniaster* (as now limited), and *Hippasteria*. It would be superfluous to draw up a synoptic table for these well-marked forms.

### Genus *Anthenea*, Gray.

*Anthenea*, Gray, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., 1840, vol. vi. p. 279.

*Hosia* (*pars*), Gray, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., 1840, vol. vi. p. 279.

*Goniodiscus* (*pars*), Muller and Troschel, System der Asteriden, 1842, p. 57.

*Goniaster* (*pars*), v. Martens, Archiv f. Naturg., 1865, Jahrg. xxxi., Bd. i. p. 254.

This genus maintains a very uniform facies, and shows only a relatively small amount of structural elasticity. Its area of distribution is also a comparatively limited one, as will be seen by the subjoined analysis:—

### Chorology of the Genus *Anthenea*.

#### a. Geographical distribution:—

INDIAN OCEAN: Two species between the parallels of 20° N. and 10° S.

*Anthenea articulata*, from the Seychelle Islands (this species is mentioned by Perrier as extending to China). *Anthenea acuta*, from Madras (British Museum), and extending to South Australia.

PACIFIC: Two (or three) species between the parallels of 30° N. and 40° S.

*Anthenea pentagonula*, from Hong-Kong. *Anthenea articulata*, is mentioned as coming from China. *Anthenea acuta*, from Port Jackson.

EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO: One species between the parallels of 0° and 20° S.

*Anthenea tuberculosa*, from Port Essington (Australia) and Torres Strait.

β. Bathymetrical range: All the species appear to be confined to shallow water. The Challenger examples of *Anthenea acuta* and *Anthenea tuberculosa* were taken in depths of 6 to 15 fathoms.

γ. Nature of the Sea-bottom: Not recorded, except in the case of *Anthenea tuberculosa*, which was taken on Coral mud.

The locality of *Anthenea flavescens* is unknown; and that species has consequently not been included in the foregoing list. *Anthenea grayi*, which is separated by Perrier as a distinct species, looks to me very like a growth stage of *Anthenea flavescens*, and its locality is also unknown.

The starfish described by Gray under the name of *Hosia spinulosa* appears to me to belong to this genus, and is probably an immature form.