

THE ECHINODERMATA.

BY THOMAS WHITELEGGE.

THE Collection of Echinodermata comprises one hundred and thirty specimens representing nineteen species, most of which belong to well known forms, common to the Pacific coral reefs.

Although devoid of new species, the material includes a few rare examples of great interest not hitherto represented in the Museum Collection.

The following are the Orders represented :—

| | Species. |
|----------------------|----------|
| Echinoidea | 7 |
| Asteroidea | 3 |
| Ophiuroidea | 3 |
| Holothuroidea | 6 |

The species of interest are *Echinothrix turcarum*, *Echinometra oblonga*, *Laganum depressum*, *Ophidiaster cylindricus*, *Culcita acutispinosa*, *Ophiarthrum elegans*, and *Holothuria imitans*.

The *Culcita acutispinosa* has been noticed at some length, and the non-specific value of external form has also been pointed out. In a subsequent article by Mr. Waite a note will be found on the commensalism of *Fierasfer* with *Holothuria argus*. Mr. Saville Kent has recorded a species of *Fierasfer* as occurring in the body cavity of *Holothuria mamnifera*, on the Queensland coast.* In this connection I venture to suggest that future observers should try to ascertain if *Fierasfer* is ever found in members of the genus *Muelleria*. Possibly the presence of anal teeth in *Muelleria* may be of use in excluding the fish from the body cavity.

ECHINODERMATA.

ECHINOIDEA.

ECHINOTHRIX TURCARUM, Schynv.

Echinothrix turcarum (Schynv.), Agassiz, Rev. Echini, Mem. Mus. Comp. Zool., iii., p. 416, pl. 111a, fig. 3.

Six specimens, in the two largest the spines are of a uniform dark colour, whilst the four smaller examples have the spines

* Saville Kent—Great Barrier Reef, 1893, p. 240.