

the disk. This is a very widely distributed deep-water species. We met with it near Tristan d'Acunha, in the Southern Sea, and in the North Pacific. There is an allied species of the same genus somewhat more ornate, and of an orange instead of a blue color, in the China Sea.

The same haul gave us a singular little addition to the family to which *Pourtalesia* and *Aceste* are referred. *Aërope rostrata* (Fig. 99) is a small species, little more than a centimetre in length. Like *Pourtalesia*, it is nearly cylindrical, and the odd inter-ambulacral area is greatly prolonged backward, and the excretory opening brought up upon the apical aspect. The apex with a peculiar madreporic tubercle, with large perforations and four ovarial openings with long exsert-ovarial tubes, is a little in advance of the centre of the dorsal surface, and just

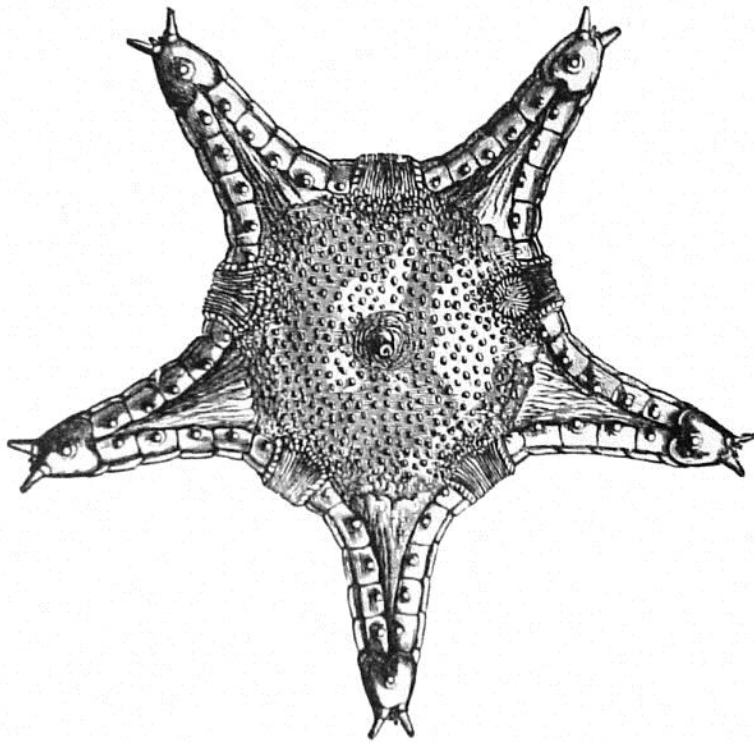


FIG. 98.—*Porcellanaster ceruleus*, WYVILLE THOMSON. Dorsal surface. Natural size. (No. 45.)

within a kind of disk surrounded by a semita. The anterior ambulacral canal runs down the centre of this disk, and gives off eight or ten disproportionately large tube feet with large terminal rosettes, as in *Aceste*. The mouth is round and oppo-