

specimens on the shores of the large island in Oak Bay, a few miles above. During September, 1889, other specimens were found near the latter locality, where it seems to be quite abundant. The specimens were four or five inches in diameter, which is the full average size of the species, and occur at low-water mark, in company with great numbers of the common and generally much larger *Asterias vulgaris*. There is no doubt of the identity of the species; for a specimen from Oak Bay sent to Prof. Verrill, the highest authority on American littoral starfishes, has been pronounced by him "a typical example of *A. Forbesii*."

There are two explanations of the presence of this decidedly southern form in the Bay. One, suggested by Prof. Verrill, is, that it may have been brought with southern oysters and placed there with them. Oysters have been placed in Oak Bay, though I have not been able to learn whether southern or Gulf of St. Lawrence stock was used. In either case, it seems difficult to believe that starfishes could be carried so far out of water and survive. They have no method of retaining water as oysters have. Still the very young may have survived in the wet mud.

The other explanation is that they are a remnant of the southern or Virginian assemblage, of animals which once occupied our entire Acadian coast. Oak Bay is a sheltered locality, not deep, but with clear water. The temperature of its water is high enough in summer to allow of bathing in comfort, which the water of the Bay of Fundy is not; and in this comparatively favorable locality this species may have survived all its southern comrades. No other southern species have been found in Oak Bay, though some search has been made for them.

9. *Asterias littoralis*. (STIMPSON), VERRILL.

A specimen of this species was given to the writer at Grand Manan in August, 1888, by Mr. Simon Cheney, the color of which can be described only by calling it an intense Prussian blue. Others, to whom it was shown, agreed that this was the proper name for its color. It was of the usual size of the species.