Brissopsis (*Kleinia*) *latior* Herklots, from the Miocene of Java has been considered by Mortensen (1951) as a probable ancestor of the Recent *B. luzonica*. The present species, of Oligocene age, has equal claim to be so regarded. *B. luzonica* in Recent seas ranges between the Red Sea, Mozambique, South Japan, Hawaii, Tahiti and Queensland, in depths of 10–1,000 (? 2,000) m. The *Challenger* record of the species from New Zealand has been shown (Fell, 1958) to be a probable misidentification of juvenile *B. oldhami*. The genus *Brissopsis* is widely represented, but is conspicuously absent from South America, as also from the Arctic and Antarctic. Its presence in the New Zealand Oligocene, and its representation then by a species so close to *luzonica*, must indicate an Indo-West-Pacific element in the fauna. Species of *Brissopsis* occur on soft bottom. The great majority of Recent New Zealand samples (of *B. oldhami*) come from depths between 600 and 1,000 metres, though it ranges up to the outer part of the shelf, in 100 metres. The ecology of *Brissopsis*, and its fragility, would effectively exclude epiplanktonic dispersal. Hence its absence from South America and Antarctica does not imply a lack of mid-Tertiary West-Wind-Drift, but suggests an absence of bathyal dispersal routes. Ecological factors may have limited the dispersal of the other echinoids mentioned here.

Hutton (1873, p. 41) described *Kleinia conjuncta* from Grey River. The description, which lacks figures, suggests that the species was correctly placed in *Kleinia*, but does not permit closer identification for unfortunately the holotype has been lost. A supposed syntype in the collection of the N.Z. Geological Survey is an indistinct internal and external mould, and cannot be determined even to genus. In these circumstances, therefore, the specific name *conjuncta* is a *nomen nudum*.

CHECK LIST

The following Oligocene echinoids are now known from the Trelissic Basin.

CIDAROIDA

1. *Histocidaris mackayi* Fell, 1954.
(*Nom. corr., pro H. mckayi*, as now required by *Règles.*) GS243: Fan Coral Bed, coll. J. D. Enys, 1866, 1879. Isolated radioles, EC 144. Duntroonian. See Fell, H. B., 1954, *Pal. Bull.* 23 (N.Z. Geol. Surv., Wellington). The species is known from other Duntroonian and Waitakian localities in the South Island.

TEMNOPLEUROIDA

2. *Goniosigma enysi* (Hutton, 1873), herein.
3. *Irenechinus minor* n. sp., herein.

SPATANGOIDA

4. *Brissopsis praeluzonica* n. sp., herein.

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