

erwähnten Feinheiten kaum nachzuweisen) die Rädchen, so erkennt man in weitem Umkreise eine feine Membran, von welcher alternierend mit den Radspeichen und an Länge ihnen fast gleich kommend sternförmig angeordnete membranöse Röhren an die Peripherie des Kalkrädchens herantreten, um sich hier meist flaschenförmig zu erweitern.

Bei vorsichtiger Entkalkung der Rädchen durch schwache Chromsäurelösungen lassen sich leicht die Kerne und die Contour des Rädchens in Gestalt einer zarten membranösen Hülle innerhalb der skeletogenen Zelle nachweisen.

Aus diesen Darlegungen über die Bildung der *Auricularia*-Rädchen ergibt sich ein Entwicklungsmodus, welcher bis jetzt einzig dazustehen scheint. Während man bisher die Skeletstücke der Echinodermen im Wesentlichen als intercellulare Gebilde auffaßte, deren Formung durch mehrere amöboid bewegliche Zellen erfolgt (ich weiß wohl, daß neuere Beobachter geneigt sind, die Gestaltung der Skeletstücke ohne Weiteres direkt mechanischen Einwirkungen zuzuschreiben), so ergibt es sich, daß die Gestalt des Kalkrädchens innerhalb einer vielkernigen Zelle durch eine compliciert sich faltende organische Membran vorgezeichnet wird und daß in diese sicher umschriebene Form der Guß der Harttheile erfolgt.

5. Note on a new *Oligochaete*.

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eingeg. 31. October 1892.

During a short visit to Weymouth, last August, I was fortunate enough to discover amongst some small *Oligochaeta* collected on the sea-shore an interesting worm, belonging to the family Tubificidae, which seems to be new and undescribed. The few specimens I was able to obtain lived in the sand below hightide mark, associated with many other Tubificids and Enchytraeids. To the naked eye this worm is quite indistinguishable from *Heterochaeta costata* Clp., resembling it closely in colour and size, and varying from one to one and a half inch in length. The whole surface of the body is clothed with a dense covering of fine »hairs«, or »bristles«, probably of a sensory nature. The dorsal and ventral bundles of setae are composed entirely of the ordinary »crotchet-shaped« setae, to the number of 3 or 4 per bundle. The vascular system presents no striking peculiarity; the blood is crimson, and there is a pair of »hearts« in the 10th segment. A large number of round corpuscles float in the coelomic fluid, which render the animal very opaque when examined under the microscope.

The genital system exhibits the most remarkable characters. The clitellum extends over segments X, XI, XII, and part of segment XIV. On the anterior wall of the 10th segment are situated the paired testes

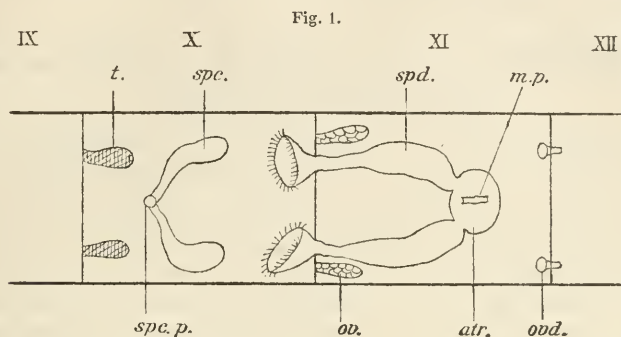


Diagram of the genital system, seen from the ventral surface. *t* testis, *spc* spermatheca, *spc.p* spermathecal pore, *spd* spermduct, *atr* atrium, *m.p* median male pore, *ov* ovary, *ovd* oviduct.

(fig. 1 *t*); in this segment open the two funnels of the spermducts (fig. 1 *spd*). The spermducts are short, slightly convoluted tubes, which for the greater part of their course have thick glandular walls (in fig. 2, they are cut through three times, *spd*); they open, on either side of the nerve cord (fig. 2 *n.c*), into a median cavity, or »atrium« (figs. 1 and 2 *atr*). This cavity, apparently formed by the invagination of the epidermis, is of considerable size, and opens ventrally by a large median pore (figs. 1 and 2 *m.p*). The two ovaries (fig. 1 *ov*) are situated on the anterior wall of the 11th segment; the oviducts (fig. 1 *ovd*) are short tubes traversing the septum between the 11th and 12th segments. Opening by a median ventral pore (fig. 1 *spc.p*) on the 10th segment are two pear-shaped sacs, the spermathecae (fig. 1 *spc*).

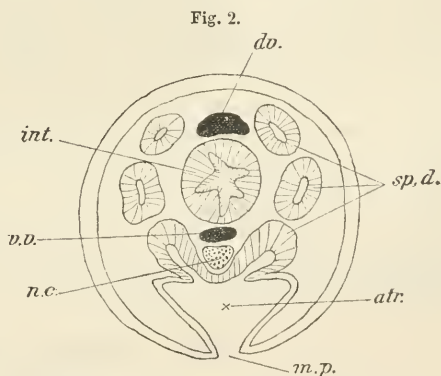


Diagram of a transverse section through the median male pore. *d.v* dorsal blood vessel, *v.v* ventral blood vessel, *n.c* nerve cord, *int* intestine, *spd* spermduct, *atr* »atrium«, *m.p* male pore.

It seems advisable to form a new genus for the reception of this worm, characterized, for the present, by the possession of median male

and spermathecal pores, and a covering of fine »bristles«. I therefore propose to name it *Vermiculus pilosus* and hope shortly to give a detailed account of its anatomy.

Oxford, Oct. 29th 1892.

II. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

Zoological Society of London.

6th December, 1892. — The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of November 1892. — Dr. Hickson read a paper entitled »A Revision of the Genera of the *Alcyonaria Stolonifera*, with a description of one new genus and several new species.« The author commenced by stating the grounds upon which it might be considered desirable to retain the suborder Stolonifera, and criticized the views of those who place these Alcyonarians in the suborder Alcyonida. Of the genera that had already been proposed only four could now be retained, namely, *Tubipora*, *Clavularia*, *Cornularia*, and *Sympodium*, and the author proposed to add one more, namely, *Stereosoma*. The genera *Sarcodictyon*, *Rhizozenia*, *Cornulariella*, *Anthelia*, and *Gymnosarca* must be abandoned, and the species incorporated in the other genera. A description was then given of the new genus *Stereosoma*, a form found on the coast of North Celebes, distinguished from all other Stolonifera by certain characters of its tentacles and by the absolute non-retractability of its polypes. Several new species of *Clavularia* were then described from North Celebes, Diego Garcia, and Australia. This was followed by a summary of all the species of the genus known to science. — Mr. F. E. Beddard, F.R.S., read a description of the convolutions of the cerebral hemispheres in certain Rodents. The paper referred chiefly to *Dasyprocta*, *Coelogenys*, *Lagostomus*, *Hydrochoerus*, and *Dolichotis*, being the genera of Rodents in which the brains show the greatest development of convolutions. — A communication was read from Prof. Collet, C.M.Z.S., containing a description of a new Monkey from S.E. Sumatra, for which he proposed the name *Semnopithecus Thomasi*. — Mr. H. J. Elwes read the second portion of an account of the Butterflies collected by Mr. W. Doherty in the Naga and Karen Hills and in Perak. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

III. Personal-Notizen.

Necrolog.

Am 26. März 1892 starb in Cambridge, Mass., John Amory Jeffries, geb. am 2. Sept. 1859 in Milton, Mass., bekannt durch mehrere tüchtige vergleichend-anatomische Arbeiten.

Am 2. December starb in London Henry Tibbald Stainton, der ausgezeichnete Lepidopterolog, einer der Gründer und langjähriger Herausgeber des Entomological Magazine.

2. Berichtigung.

In No. 406 (Règles de Nomenclature) muß es heißen:
p. 443, Z. 17 v. o. Art. 31: »Il est utile d'indiquer«, statt »inutile«.

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