

2. Note on the Excretory Cells of the Ascaridae.

By Arthur E. Shipley, Cambridge.

eingeg. 10. August 1897¹.

At the end of a somewhat long critique on Professor NASSONOW'S interesting discovery that certain large cells in the body of *Ascaris megalcephala* take up granules of carmine and Indian ink, when these substances are injected into the body-cavity, Professor SPENGLER writes as follows: 'Thatsächlich finden sich diese Zellen, was den sämtlichen früheren Beobachtern entgangen ist, nicht immer seitlich, zwischen dem Darm und den Seitenlinien, sondern manchmal auch median, auf oder unter dem Darm. Das ist die einzige Beobachtung, um die ich bei dieser Gelegenheit die Kenntnis von diesen merkwürdigen Zellen vermehren will'. —

It is perhaps not a matter of any great importance, but I should like to point out that these giant cells whose function Professor NASSONOW has been the first to experimentally determine, have been described and figured in the position indicated by Professor SPENGLER by Dr. HESSE², who calls them »Gewebepolstern«, in *Ascaris megalcephala* and by myself³ in *Ascaris transfuga*. In the last named species they are three in number, one situated dorsally and two ventrally on the intestine just at the level where the mid-gut passes into the proctodeum.

From his article one is led to the conclusion that Professor SPENGLER knows more about these peculiar giant-cells in Nematodes and one cannot but regret that his only contribution to the increase of our knowledge of these remarkable cells is one that has been so recently described and figured in such well known periodicals as the Zeitschrift für wissenschaftliche Zoologie and the Proceedings of the Zoological Society.

3. On the Notochord of Cephalodiscus.

By Sidney F. Harmer, M. A. Cambridge.

eingeg. 27. August 1897.

Mr. A. T. MASTERMAN has just published an important memoir¹ on the anatomy of *Actinotrocha* and of *Cephalodiscus*. If we may accept

¹ Durch Zufall erst am 12. Sept. in meine Hände gekommen. Carus.

² Zeitschr. f. wiss. Zool. Vol. LIV. 1892. p. 548.

³ Proc. Zoological Society, London, 1894. p. 531.

¹ On the Diplochorda. 1. The Structure of *Actinotrocha*. 2. The Structure of *Cephalodiscus*. Quart. Journ. Mic. Sc. Vol. 40. Part 2 (Aug. 1897). p. 281; following on preliminary notices in Proc. Roy. Soc. Edinburgh, 1895—1896. p. 59, 129.

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