

2. A new marine Trematode belonging to the Polystomidae.

By J. T. Cunningham, Edinburgh.

eingeg. 12. Mai 1884.

I have found this animal, which from the disposition of its suckers and the name of its host I have named *Stichocotyle Nephropsis* enclosed in cysts in the walls of the intestine of *Nephrops norvegicus* from the Firth of Forth. It is of elongated cylindrical shape, varying in size from .75mm to 10mm, according to its age. The most novel feature of its structure is a single series of large suckers extending down the median ventral line, commencing a little behind the mouth, which is near the anterior end, and extending to the posterior end of the body. The suckers diminish in size from before backwards, and as the animal increases in length additional suckers are formed at the posterior end of the series. In small specimens there are only 7 suckers, in the largest as many as 22. Thus the sucker system exhibits the characteristics of metameric segmentation, but the metamerism does not extend to the other organ-systems which are those of a typical Trematode. The intestine is straight and simple without any branches, and extends almost to the posterior end of the body terminating blindly. The main canals of the water-vessel system are relatively of large size, and extend from the anterior end of the body to the posterior end; there is one on each side of the intestine, and posteriorly the two unite behind the intestine in a terminal muscular chamber which exhibits regular rhythmical pulsations. These lateral canals are crowded with large spherical concretions. The terminal chamber opens to the exterior by a small dorsal aperture. Ciliated tubules are present on the dorsal side of the body above the lateral canals; they probably have the same relations as the corresponding structures in other Trematodes, but I have not yet traced their connections. The generative organs are not developed, and I have as yet no evidence as to the way in which the parasite reaches its encysted stage in *Nephrops*, nor as to the conditions under which it exists in a state of maturity. This is I believe the first case described of one of the Polystomidae passing in its development through an encysted condition as an internal parasite. The full description of the animal will be published in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Zoologischer Anzeiger](#)

Jahr/Year: 1884

Band/Volume: [7](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Cunningham J. T.

Artikel/Article: [2. A new marine Trematode belonging to the Polystomidae 399](#)