

minal development, which is peculiar to this Acarine, and has not previously been indicated in the Arachnida of this group, resembles that occurring in the female termites, and especially in the females of the Chigoe (*Dermatophilus* or *Pulex penetrans*) of the tropics."—*Comptes Rendus*, February 25, 1884, p. 539.

New Contributions to the Knowledge of the Rotatoria.

By DR. EUGEN VON DADAY.

After devoting several years to the study of the Hungarian Rotifera, especially those of Transylvania, the author in 1882 visited the group of pools in the Mezösény, and found in the Mezö-Záher pool several new species, one of them representing a new genus. The following are the characters of these new forms:—

Genus BRACHIONUS, Ehr.

Brachionus Margói, n. sp.

Testula lævi, oblongo-ovata; frontis dorso processibus quatuor, mediis longioribus, basi inflatis, acutis; lateralibus brevioribus, arcuatis; ventri margine undulata, medio excisa; postice utrinque latere processu longo, acuminato ac valde arcuato; apertura pedis bidentata. Long. corp. 0.5–0.8 mill.

Collected on the frothy surface of the large pool near Mezö-Záh, where it occurred pretty abundantly with small Crustacea and the following Rotifera. It most nearly approaches *Brachionus amphicerus*, especially as regards the processes of its carapace; but in that species the processes are all of equal length, while they differ in length in the new one. The essential distinction between the two species is to be sought in the rotatory organ, the musculature, the jaws, and salivary glands. The new form is named in honour of Prof. T. von Margó.

Genus SCHIZOCERCA, n. gen.

Novum genus e Brachionorum familia; testa lævi; oculis duobus conjunctis sessilibus; pede longo, cylindrico, apice magnopere fisso, furcam longam effecto, ramis apice dentibus duobus inæqualibus instructis.

Schizocerca diversicornis, n. sp.

Species unica, caractere generis. Corpore elongato, fronte latiusculo, postice parum attenuato; testa lævi, frontis processibus quatuor, mediis parvis, basi inflatis, marginalibus elongatis, acutis, arcuatis; ventri margine medio excisa; mucronibus duobus posticis inæqualibus, dextro multo longiore, acutiore inflexoque, sinistro brevior, latior. Long. corp. 0.15–0.2 mill.

Occurs frequently in the pool of Mezö-Záh. Resembles *Brachi-*

onus in internal organization, but differs so much from the *Brachionea*, and, indeed, from all *Rotatoria*, in the structure of its foot, that the author regards it as the type of a new genus.

Genus *ASPLANCHNA*, Gosse.

Asplanchna triophthalma, n. sp.

Corpus truncato-ovatum; ocellis tribus, duobus marginalibus, uno majore collari; organo rotatorio simplice, parum undulato; fronte organis tentaculatis; pede anoque caret. Long. corp. 0·8–1·2 mill.

This is also found abundantly in the froth of the surface of the great pool near Mezö-Záh. It is one of the largest of *Rotifera*, and very similar to *Asplanchna Sieboldii* (*Notommata Sieboldii*, Leyd.) in the form of the body, the digestive apparatus, and the ovary. But the nervous system, the aquiferous vessels, and the construction of the rotatory organ show such considerable differences that the author has no hesitation about separating the two species, and he gives the new one the name of *Asplanchna triophthalma*, because besides the frontal eye, seated upon the œsophageal ganglion, it possesses two other smaller eyes placed at a distance from the ganglion and provided with visual nerves. The male of *Asplanchna Sieboldii* possesses on each side of its body a triangular process; but no such appendages occur in the male of the new species.—*Math. naturwiss. Berichte aus Ungarn*, Bd. i. p. 261.

On the Development of the Comatulæ. By M. E. PERRIER.

To arrive at a strict determination of the different parts which constitute an adult *Comatula* we have endeavoured to ascertain, by means of materials kindly furnished to us by Dr. Viguier, of Algiers, what is the organization of the animal at the three phases:—1, of *Cystidean*; 2, of *Pentacrinus*; 3, of free *Comatula*, but not yet adult.

1. At the close of the *Cystidean* phase the young *Comatula* still possesses only buccal tentacles and no arms. Its digestive tube forms a half spiral, and presents an anus situated upon the side of the body. Around the mouth there is an annular canal into which the buccal tentacles open. A short tube, bent into a V, starts from the annular canal, traverses the wall of the body, at the same time slightly changing its structure, and becoming united with the surrounding tissues, and then opens exteriorly by a pore situated upon the wall of the body. This tube has been compared with the hydrophorous canal of the *Holothuriæ*, which is itself regarded as homologous with what is called the *sand-canal* in the *Sea-urchins*, *Starfishes*, and *Ophiurans*. It serves indubitably to introduce water into the tentacular apparatus; but we must make the most express



Daday, Jenö. 1884. "New contributions to the knowledge of the Rotatoria." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 13, 309–310. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00222938409459245>.

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