

XVII. — ON A REMARKABLE POLYNOID-WORM WEBERIA PUSTULATA NOV. GEN. NOV. SPEC. FROM THE MALAYAN ABYSS.

BY Dr. R. HORST. — (WITH TWO TEXTFIGURES).

At the Stations 45 and 314, north off Soembawa, in a depth of 694 and 794 m, the Siboga-expedition dredged three specimens of Polynoïnae that cannot be identified with any species, hitherto described. Unfortunately they are somewhat incomplete, for the elytra as well as most of the cirri are absent. One of the specimens, a female containing ripe eggs, measures nearly 20 mm. in length and has about 40 segments. The head is rounded, broader as long, prolonged anteriorly into the two stout basal joints of the lateral antennae, that are nearly as long as the head, whereas their distal part is only a trifle longer; the species therefore belongs to the group of *Lepidonotidae* ¹⁾. From the middle of the head a large basal joint of the tentacle arises, but its distal part is absent. The palps are stumpy, conical. No eyes are visible. Each segment bears a papilliform tubercle in the middle of the dorsum;

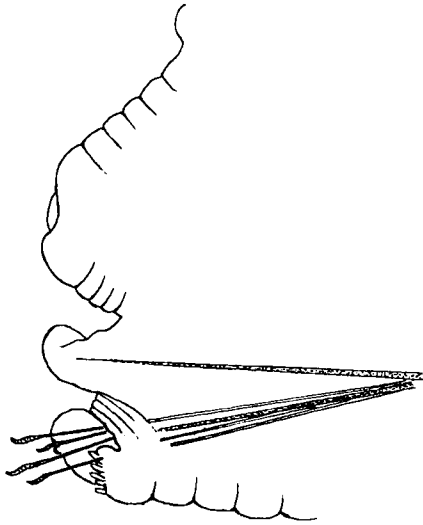


Fig. 1.

this series in combination with the longitudinal rows of dorsal tubercles, elyptrophores, cirriphores and notopodia gives the body a pustulate appearance. The parapodia are characterized by the total absence of a ventral cirrus; this organ is only present in the first setigerous segment (the 2^d). It consists of a rather stout basal part and a distal joint with filiform tip, hardly extending beyond the extremity of the neuropodium. Each parapodium (Fig. 1) consists of a papilliform notopodium, containing only an acicula, and of a much larger neuropo-



Fig. 2.

1) This Journal Vol. I. p. 3.

dium, the anterior lip of which is rounded, ellipsoidal, with an incision in the outer margin, whereas the smaller, posterior one is provided with several papillae. The neuropodial fascicle contains four yellow, hook-shaped setae, which are dilated beneath the curved apex and provided here with several indistinct, densely crowded, denticulated rows (Fig. 2). Presumably there are 18 pairs of scales, situated on segments 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29, 30 and 32; the arrangement of the elytra therefore differs from that in other Lepidonotidae, in most of which the elytre-bearing segments behind the 23^d alternate with two cirriphore-bearing ones. Each cirriphore, lying outwards from the series of elytre-bearing ones, is connected by a ridge with a dorsal tubercle.

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