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XX.—Preliminary Account of Aspidodrilus, a remarkable Epizoic Oligochæte. By H. A. BAYLIS, B.A.

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ELEVEN specimens of a very remarkable little worm, collected in Sierra Leone by Major H. Kelsall, R.A., were recently presented to the British Museum by the Imperial Bureau of

Entomology.

According to Major Kelsall's account, they were found living as "external parasites" on a large earthworm common in the district. In the absence of specimens of the host it is impossible to state at present to what genus it belongs; but as the "parasite" is of considerable interest, it is proposed to give a brief account of it, leaving a more complete study of it until further well-preserved material is available.

Major Kelsall's account, as given in a letter to the Bureau of Entomology, is interesting, and I quote the following

passage from it:-

"The worm [i. e. the host] is terrestrial, and about 12 or 13 inches long, in general appearance very like the ordinary large earthworms of this country [sc. Great Britain]. Many that I noticed were infested with the small whitish parasites (or what appeared to be parasites). I usually found the worms crawling on the roads or paths, and the parasites

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Pycnolepas scalaris, Withers.

Cenomanian, Chalk Marl: near Cambridge.

Fig. 7. Rostrum. a, outer view; b, inner view.

Fig. 8. Rostrum. A smaller example in which the longitudinal ridges are not so pronounced.

Fig. 9. Upper latus. a, outer view; b, inner view.

Fig. 10. Scutum. a, outer view; b, inner view. Figures \times 8 diam.

Calantica (Scillalepas) valida, Steenstrup, sp.

Upper Senonian: Ciply, Belgium.

Fig. 11. Rostrum. Outer view. \times 2 diam, Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.), 38460.

Calantica (Scillælepas) dorsata, Steenstrup, sp.

Danian, Bryozoa Limestone: Faxe, Denmark.

Fig. 12. Carina.(With apex broken.)Fig. 13. Tergum.Right valve.Fig. 14. Scutum.Large right valve.Fig. 15. Scutum.Young left valve.Fig. 16. Carinal latus.Left valve.Fig. 17. Rostral latus.Left valve.Fig. 18. Rostrum. \times 4 diam.Fig. 19. Rostral latus.Right valve.Fig. 20. Median latus. \times 4 diam.Figs. 22. Subcarina. \times 5, inner view.Figs. 22. 23. Peduncular plates. \times 6, inner view.

XXVI.—Description of a new Species of Terrestrial Isopoda from India. By Walter E. Collinge, M.Sc., F.L.S., F.E.S.

[Plate IX.]

I AM indebted to the kindness of Dr. A. D. Imms, of the University of Manchester, for a tube of terrestrial Isopoda containing three specimens, two adult and one young, referable to the genus *Porcellio*, Latreille, collected by him at Allahabad.

During the past few years I have examined a considerable number of terrestrial Isopoda from this region, including many species of *Porcellio*; I cannot, however, find that the present species agrees with any of these or with any that have been previously described.

Porcellio immsi, sp. n.

Body oblong-oval, somewhat depressed; metasome a little narrower than the mesosome, the segments of the latter finely tuberculated, whilst those of the former have a single row of tooth-like tubercles on the posterior margin of each segment. Cephalon (Pl. IX. figs. 1 & 2) with numerous large tubercles; the anterior margin is turned backwards; lateral lobes well developed; median lobe small, formed by the right and left portions of the anterior margin, which do not, however, meet; epistoma convex. Eyes large, sublateral. Antennulæ small, 3-jointed. Antennæ (fig. 3) slender, with the second to fifth joints carinated; the second, third, and fourth are characterized by deep indentations at their distal ends; flagellum 2 jointed, almost equal in length. Mandibles and first maxillæ (fig. 4) typical of the genus. Second maxillæ (fig. 5) thin and plate-like; the inner lobe terminates in a dense mass of setæ, whilst the outer lobe is devoid of setæ, but between the two lobes there are three or four long hair-like setæ. The segments of the mesosome are somewhat depressed; the lateral plates of the first partly surround the head, the remainder are normal and slightly overlap one another. Maxillipedes (fig. 6) with outer palp terminating in a short blunt spine with three smaller ones; the inner palp has a single spine only. Thoracic appendages (fig. 7) comparatively short and thick, the three terminal segments fringed with short spines, and the third and fourth have a series of tooth-like projections on the terminal border, and the fourth a groove on the anterior face lined with fine, short, hair-like setæ. The posterior angle of the lateral plates of the metasome produced backwards (fig. 9). Uropoda (fig. 8) extending beyond the telson; basal plate small and cube-like, with raised portions on the outer and inner sides; exopodite nearly three times the length of the basal plate, carrotshaped, setose, and articulating at the distal end of the plate: endopodite slightly curved, covered with numerous long setæ, terminating distally with two extra long ones, slightly more than half the length of the exopodite, triangular in section, articulating at the base of a raised portion of the basal plate on the inner side. Telson (fig. 9) short and triangular, terminating in a fine blunt point.

Longth 10 mm.

Colour (in alcohol): the mesosomatic segments are a horny brown colour, with yellowish lateral plates, in the middle of which is a patch of deep brown; the metasomatic segments are a uniform dark brown.

Hab. On the surface of the ground, Allahabad, 16. ix. 1907 (A. D. Imms).

Type. In the collection of the British Museum (Natural

History).

Porcellio immsi is separated from any other known species by a number of minor characters, such, for instance, as the tuberculation of both the mesosomatic and metasomatic segments and the form of the second maxillæ and the maxillipedes. In the form of the antennæ, the head, and the uropoda well-marked differences obtain.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE IX.

Fig. 1. Dorsal view of the cephalon.

Fig. 2. Anterior view of the same.
Fig. 3. Antenna.
Fig. 4. First maxilla, terminal portion. Fig. 5. Second maxilla, terminal portion.

Fig. 6. Maxillipede, terminal portion. Fig. 7. Second thoracic appendage.

Fig. 8. Uropod from left side.
Fig. 9. Telson and part of last abdominal segment.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE.

Animal Life by the Sea-shore. By G. A. and G. L. Boulenger. London: the Offices of 'Country Life,' Ltd.

Books on "The Common Objects of the Sea-shore" are legion, and some of them have been written by famous men. Gosse and Kingsley are of this number. The authors of the present work are therefore to be congratulated on having produced a volume which must unquestionably rank with the best of its predecessors. Indeed, the names of the authors lead one to expect as much.

While written primarily for the lay reader, these pages will prove no less welcome to trained zoologists, whose everyday work may lie in other fields, and hence may need to refresh their

memories.

Every kind of animal that is likely to be found on the beach, in rock-pools, or among beds of seaweed at low tide, from fishes

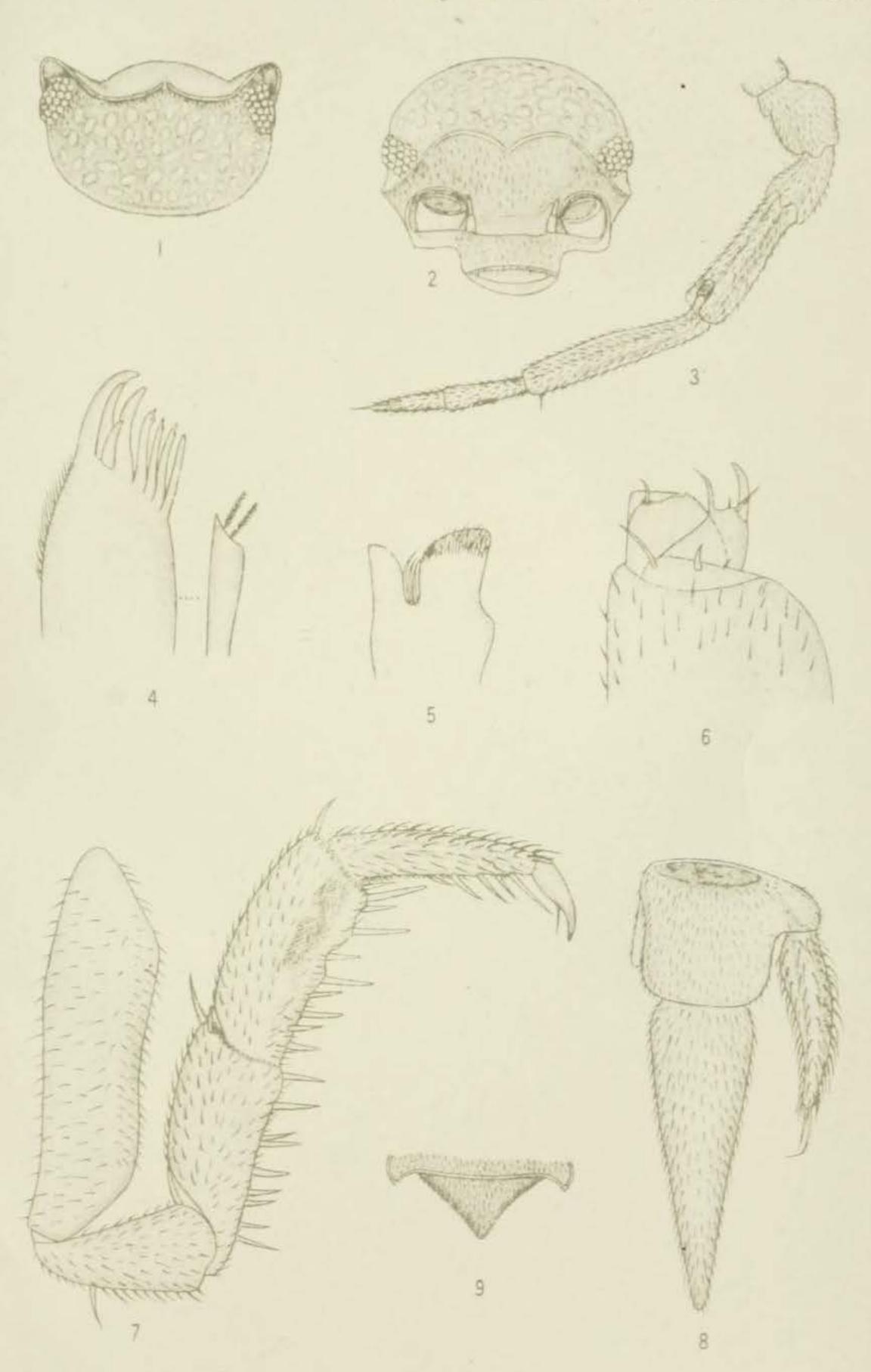
downwards, finds a place in these pages.

The illustrations are not only numerous, but exceptionally good, and hence interesting details of the life-history of the various creatures herein described can be, and are, freely introduced, long and technical notes to enable the reader to identify his "finds" being unnecessary.

We most heartily commend this volume to all who are contemplating a holiday at the seaside; even youngsters will find it a

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fascinating book.



E.W.E. del ad nat.

PORCELLIO IMMSI, n. sp.