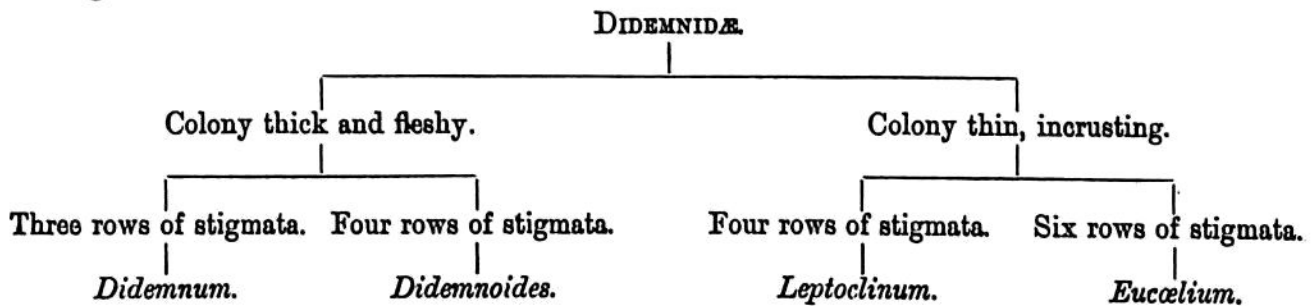


Didemnoides, which would therefore lapse as Della Valle's name has the priority, (3) it may have some peculiarities of its own distinguishing it from both *Leptoclinum* and *Didemnoides*, and necessitating the employment of all three sections. Della Valle's figures and remarks¹ do not decide the matter, and therefore *Tetradidemnum gigas*, Della Valle, must be provisionally placed on one side until more is known in regard to its structure and affinities.

I am not, however, inclined to ascribe very much importance to the number of rows of stigmata, since species differ in that respect which appear to be otherwise closely allied, and I have found in one new species of *Leptoclinum* (see below) three rows and four rows of stigmata present in different Ascidiozooids of the same colony. Consequently, I only use the number of rows as a diagnostic feature in conjunction with other characters, and I regard *Didemnoides* as being quite as closely related to the thick fleshy species of *Didemnum*, although it has four rows of stigmata, as it is to the thin incrusting species of *Leptoclinum*. I therefore divide the family into genera according to the following Table:—



Further remarks as to the affinities of the groups will be found under the generic descriptions.

The species of the Didemnidæ have been described chiefly by Savigny, Milne-Edwards, Giard, Della Valle, and von Drasche. The majority of them belong to the genus *Leptoclinum*, which has a wide distribution, mainly in shallow water.

In the Challenger collection only the two commoner genera *Didemnum* and *Leptoclinum* are with certainty represented, and the majority of the species belong to *Leptoclinum*. The genus *Didemnoides* contains two species found by von Drasche in the Adriatic and on the coast of Normandy. Possibly *Leptoclinum carpenteri*, *Leptoclinum japonicum*, *Leptoclinum jacksoni*, and *Leptoclinum rubicundum*, might be referred to this genus instead of to *Leptoclinum*.

In regard to *Eucelium*, the only undoubted member of the genus that I know of is Savigny's *Eucelium hospitolum*, which differs markedly from all other species of the family in having six rows of stigmata in the branchial sac. Giard's *Eucelium parasiticum* is probably, as von Drasche supposes, merely a species of *Leptoclinum*. It has only four rows of stigmata in the branchial sac.

¹ Nuove Contribuzioni, &c., p. 50.