

As regards one of the most remarkable peculiarities of the genus, the pushing backwards of the marginal spines of the telson, the various species present a most interesting series of steps in the process of modification. In *Protosquilla folinii*¹ the outline of the telson closely approximates the prevalent type among the Stomatopoda. There are six marginal spines, and the submedians, which project furthest backwards, are separated by a well-marked median notch, while the second pair are a little more anterior, and the third pair still more so, all the marginal spines, however, being further back than they are in ordinary Stomatopods. In the very closely related species, *Protosquilla elongata*, Pl. XV. fig. 2, all the spines are fused into a pair of rounded lobes on the sides of the median notch, and no traces of the separate spines are visible in a dorsal view, although their rounded ends project slightly below the general surface of the ventral side of the telson, as shown in fig. 12.

In *Protosquilla trispinosa* (*Gonodactylus trispinosus*, Miers, Squillidæ, pl. iii. fig. 10) the median notch is faintly indicated, and all the spines are on the convexly rounded posterior border of the telson. In *Protosquilla cerebralis* (Pl. XVI. fig. 2) the telson is transversely truncated behind, and the spines are all on its posterior edge. In *Protosquilla excavata* (*Gonodactylus excavatus*, Miers, Squillidæ, pl. iii. fig. 12) the spines are obscurely indicated, but the lateral ones are now the longest, and the edge of the telson is deeply excavated between them, while in *Protosquilla furcicaudata* (*Gonodactylus furcicaudatus*, Miers, Squillidæ, pl. iii. fig. 14) this excavation is carried so far that the median portion of the telson has disappeared, and the two marginal spines have approached each other on the middle line, evidently as the result of an infolding of the median portion of the posterior edge of the telson of the larva. In *Protosquilla guerinii* (Pl. XVI. fig. 1), the marginal spines have undergone a very remarkable modification in a somewhat divergent direction. They are on the posterior edge, and the laterals project as far backwards as the submedians, but they have become greatly divided, forming a complicated pectinated structure.

As regards the telson, *Protosquilla folinii* is at one end of a series at the other end of which is *Protosquilla furcicaudata*, but it is difficult to decide which of these forms is the one in which the process of modification began. As the telson is long, with a convex border, in most Malacostraca, and in the Stomatopod larva, it is probable that *Protosquilla folinii* is the primitive form, and *Protosquilla furcicaudata* a highly modified form, and that the relationship to the other Stomatopoda is through *Protosquilla folinii*, which must therefore be regarded as one of the closest living allies of the ancestral type of the order.

Outside the genus *Protosquilla*; the two species for which I have proposed to establish the genus *Coronida*, *Coronida bradyi* and *Coronida trachura*, are very similar to *Protosquilla*, as are also, but in a less degree, the true *Gonodactyli*. On account of the

¹ *Gonodactylus folinii*, A. Milne-Edwards, *Nouv. Arch. Mus. Hist. Nat.*, t. iv., pl. xviii. fig. 10.