

upon it, an uncertainty so great that in many cases alternative schemes of genealogy are proposed for consideration. It may be and indeed has been argued that this uncertainty is inherent in all schemes of phylogeny alike, but this is an opinion which I by no means share. Tables of phylogeny are to the biologist what constitutional formulæ are to the chemist, and the success in elucidating these which the latter has achieved in the face of opposition and discouragement, from a spirit sometimes of conservatism, and sometimes of despair, must prove an encouragement to the biologist to persevere in his efforts to attain to a rational interpretation of the facts of classification. An earnest of such success appears to me to be furnished by Schulze's genealogy of the Hexactinellida.