branchiata. The larvæ of different species, as observed by me, usually remain for a long time after having cast off their exuviæ, in relation to the ovigerous leg of their parent. As long as they were enclosed in their egg, they clung together tightly enough; but once crept out of the egg-shell, a special arrangement is necessary to keep them together. This is found in the threads, and the supposed glands from which these take their origin, as observed by Dohrn and me. Repeatedly I saw, as I have mentioned already before, between the larvæ of *Nymphon brevicollum*, collections of very numerous skins held together by means of the threads, and small parts of such a cast skin I found also in relation with the thread of the larvæ of *Nymphon longicoxa*.

It is true that the structure of the apparatus, as it shows itself in the larva of *Nymphon hamatum*, argues, perhaps, for the conjecture that the organ is an organ of sense, but then it is exceedingly strange that such an organ should only be found within the larvæ. And it would be difficult to explain the meaning of the single or numerous long threads as being sent forth from an organ of sense, whereas in relation with a gland their function can easily be understood.

The study of this same organ which I made last summer in the laboratory of Prof. Lacaze-Duthiers, at Roscoff, has also convinced me, that my original supposition as to the function of these organs was erroneous. The fine threads, which I observed in the interior of the mandible running towards the organ are threads of connective tissue; their function is, no doubt, to hold the organ in its place. The young of *Nymphon robustum*, Bell, and those of *Nymphon brevicaudatum*, Miers, are a great deal more developed when creeping out of the egg than those of *Nymphon hamatum*, *N. longicoxa*, and *N. brevicollum*. Most probably this spinneret of the larva does not occur in these species.

Besides the larvæ of the genus *Nymphon*, the only other genus of which I could investigate the larvæ was *Ascorhynchus*. About their development and metamorphosis nothing as yet has been published. I can only give a drawing of the single larval stage which I observed, and which is furnished with three pairs of legs. The fig. 6 on Plate XX. shows that the larva in this stage corresponds with larvæ of other genera, as observed by Kröyer, Dohrn, and myself. Of the glands in the foot-jaw no trace could be discovered; but then the larvæ are very small, and their condition is not very good.

8. In studying the anatomy of the Pycnogonids of the Challenger Expedition, I met with two different kinds of bodies of which I have not been able to ascertain whether they really belong to the organisation of the Pycnogonids, or must be considered as parasites. However, I feel much inclined to adopt the latter opinion; and although some doubt remains, I wish to give a short description of what I have seen, which may, perhaps, be of use for later investigators.

In the first place I met with some curiously shaped forms in the interior of the body and of the legs of two different species of *Nymphon*. I observed them in *Nymphon longicoxa* and in *Nymphon brevicaudatum*, but only in some of the specimens which belonged to