

characterised by a mouth with the proboscis devoid of tentacles; head with two distinct eyes, antennæ complete, the middle very small and conical, the intermediate similar and a little longer, the exterior large. Feet of two separate divisions, the dorsal with two unequal fasciculi of bristles inclined backward, the ventral with a single bundle of forked bristles. The dorsal and ventral cirri slender, cylindrical, terminated by a little cylindrical process enlarged at the tip. The dorsal cirri are inserted behind the base of the inferior fascicle of dorsal bristles. The first pair of feet furnished with bristles; and the last almost like the others. The branchiæ indistinct, ceasing to appear alternately on each segment after the twenty-fifth pair of feet. No elytra. Head depressed, a little raised behind the antennæ. Body oblong, depressed, composed of a number of segments. His only species (the *Nereis palmifera* of the Cuvierian collection) had been collected at the Isle of France by M. Mathieu. Savigny in his original description noticed both kinds of dorsal bristles, and as his specimen had thirty feet, he hazarded the opinion that if scales had been developed they would have been fourteen in number. His countrymen, Audouin and Milne-Edwards,¹ in 1834 made *Palmyra* the third tribe of their *Aphrodisiens*, characterised by the absence of elytra (*Aphrodisiens nus*). Nothing was added to Savigny's description save a few indifferent figures, some of which afterwards appeared in the Règne Animal. Grube² in 1855 added another species to the family. It had four eyes and very different ventral bristles. Moreover, in his recent *Annulata Semperiana*,³ he revises the description of the family, and gives a notice of Savigny's species (*Palmyra aurifera*). No scales are stated to exist. Claparède⁴ in 1862 also referred generally to the group in his description of two new forms (very different from the foregoing) from the Mediterranean; and again in 1868⁵ he alludes to the subject in regard to *Chrysopetalum* in which scales are likewise absent. Schmarda⁶ gives Kinberg's definition of the family, viz., elytra absent, paleæ on every segment; tubercles and dorsal cirri alternate. The genera, *Paleanotus* and *Bhawania*, described are likewise quite different from *Palmyra*. Ehlers, in his comprehensive general remarks on the literature of the subject at the end of his description of *Chrysopetalum fragile*⁷ gives no information on this important subject of the scales, which he believes do not exist. De Quatrefages,⁸ again, in his account of the genus *Palmyra*, deprives it of eyes as well as scales, and erroneously gives it three tentacular cirri instead of two.

The original specimen (of *Palmyra aurifera*) described by Savigny seems to have been the only one examined, up to the date of Grube's *Annulata Ærstediana*, and from the close similarity of *Palmyra* in regard to the structure of the head, the structure of the feet, the form of the bristles, the pinnate condition of the alimentary canal, and other points, it is hardly in accordance with what is known in allied forms that scales should

¹ Hist. nat des Annél., p. 110, pl. iia. figs. 1-6.

² Annél. Fauna d. Philippinen, p. 12.

³ Annél. Chétop., p. 107.

⁴ Die Borstenwürmer, i. pp. 88-92.

⁵ *Annulata Ærstediana*, p. 25.

⁶ *Glanures Zootomiques, &c.*, p. 123.

⁷ *Neue wirbell. Thiere*, I. ii. p. 162.

⁸ *Annelés*, i. p. 292.