

two hundred bands repeatedly anastomosing. The alimentary canal consists of a pharynx, a narrow muscular œsophagus, an intestine with three main loops, which after forming a small cæcum is continued into a wide rectum terminating in the cloaca. Each loop of the intestine is attached to the body-wall by special muscles, which frequently broaden out into a fan-shape as they approach the intestine. The strands attaching the rectum ("Befestiger") are especially numerous (sixty to seventy). As regards the vascular system, two vessels admit of ready recognition, one dorsal accompanying the alimentary canal, and one ventral lying above the nerve-cord. Like v. Drasche I was unable to discover any trace of a vascular ring. Both pairs of segmental organs have associated with them near their external opening two spirally coiled appendages like those which occur in most species of *Thalassema*, where Greeff has described them under the designation "spiral tubes." They are also described and figured by v. Drasche. The anal vesicles are in structure like those of *Echiurus pallasii*.

Some of the specimens were so well preserved that a detailed representation of the ciliated funnels was in some cases possible (Pl. III. figs. 11, 12).

Habitat.—Inland Sea, Japan. From fishermen, May 28, 1875.

Von Drasche notes that in both the specimens which he examined the proboscis (Kopflappen) was wanting. Careful investigation, however, has convinced me that the short process at the anterior end of the body really represents the *whole* proboscis. It is quite likely then that even in von Drasche's specimens the proboscis was present and complete.

This species was first mentioned by Willemoes-Suhm¹ in the following terms:—"A new Echiurid from the Japanese coast, used by the fishermen as bait, and occurring in the mud close by the shore. The worm measured 3 to 4 inches in length, and in all its characters resembled the genus *Echiurus* except in having a single posterior circle of setæ instead of two."

Genus 3. *Thalassema*, Gaertner.

Body swollen with a short undivided proboscis. Two internal anal vesicles, usually with ciliated funnels. Only two anterior ventral hooked setæ. There are one to six pairs of (anterior) segmental organs.

3. *Thalassema faex*, n. sp. (Pl. III. fig. 13).

The longitudinal musculature is undivided. There is only a single pair of segmental organs. The proboscis is small. The thin skin of the preserved specimen is whitish and smooth, the papillæ are indistinct and scattered. The intestine exhibits the usual charac-

¹ Brief VII. an C. Th. von Siebold, *Zeitschr. f. wiss. Zool.*, Bd. xxvii. p. cii., 1876.