

Foot.—Posterior lobe lengthened, tapering greatly, and pointed at its posterior end.

Head rather long; labial tentacles long.

Gills.—(1) Lateral gill little developed and very short, forming a simple prominence on the right side of the body; (2) posterior or caudal gill as a simple membranous ring, without exterior radii and fringes or folds at its base.

Acetabuliferous Appendages.—Two symmetrical appendages inserted on the ventral wall of the front portion of the buccal cavity, or protrusible part of the digestive tract; each appendage bears, on the side which is median during the extension, suckers arranged in a single row, and of which the size increases from the base of the appendage to its distal extremity.

The protrusible front portion of the digestive tract consists of a rather long proboscis (fig. 2, 1), on the ventral side of which, as in *Pneumonoderma*, is a papilla (fig. 2, 3) anterior (during the evagination of the proboscis) to the acetabuliferous appendages.

Hook-sacs rather short, like those of *Clione*, and also containing teeth of different length, slightly bent.

Radula always with a median tooth in the adult.

Jaw rather small, with slender spines.

Since d'Orbigny (1840), whose species *australis* is alone a true *Spongiobranchæa*,¹ this genus has never been studied till lately by Boas and by me. Souleyet,² Gegenbaur,³ Fischer,⁴ &c., have considered it as a *Pneumonoderma* badly described, and Krohn⁵ as an immature *Pneumonoderma*. It is, however, a very good, distinct, and well-characterised genus, as may be seen from the foregoing description and from the figures.

* *Spongiobranchæa australis*, d'Orbigny (Pl. I. figs. 6, 7).

1825. "*Cliodita caduceus*," Quoy and Gaimard, Description de cinq genres de Mollusques, Ann. d. Sci. Nat., sér. 1, t. vi. p. 74, pl. ii. fig. 2.

1840. *Spongiobranchæa australis*, d'Orbigny, Voyage dans l'Amérique méridionale, t. v. p. 131, pl. xix. figs. 1-7.

Acetabuliferous Appendages bearing on their median side from eight to ten suckers, with short peduncles. The three or four more proximal are very small, the largest (distal) are inserted on the ventral margin of the appendages, as in *Pneumonoderma mediterraneum*.

Radula.—Formula 8 : 1 : 8.

¹ *Spongiobranchæa elongata*, d'Orb. = *Clione longicaudata*, Soul.

² Untersuchungen über Pteropoden und Heteropoden, p. 173.

³ Beiträge zur Entwicklungsgeschichte der Pteropoden und Heteropoden, p. 17.

⁴ Voyage de la Bonite, Zoologie, t. ii. p. 272.

⁵ Manuel de Conchyliologie, p. 424.

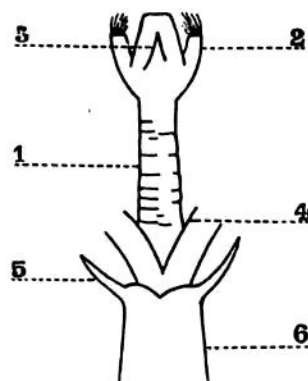


FIG. 2.—The proboscis of *Spongiobranchæa*, expanded; ventral aspect. Magnified about 8 diameters. 1, proboscis; 2, hook-sacs; 3, ventral papilla; 4, acetabuliferous appendages; 5, labial tentacles; 6, head.