

semisuctorial. Terga from the fifth to the penultimate with a pair of lateral scent-glands; pleural areas large, membranous or chitinized; sterna freely movable. Legs with coxal pouches. Both pairs of legs of 7th segment modified in the male, externally attached to distinct sternal plates lying in the same plane as those in front and behind, short and thick, consisting of six or seven segments, the posterior pair, constituting the phallopods, protected apically by the anterior pair.

Two families of Colobognatha are represented in Central America, viz. the *Platydesmidæ* and *Siphonophoridæ*, which are diagnosed below. Further research, however, will probably reveal the existence in this area of a third family, the *Polyzonidæ*, which has representatives both in North America, South America, and the West Indies. In the structure of the gnathites the *Polyzonidæ* are somewhat intermediate between the *Siphonophoridæ* and *Platydesmidæ*, the mandibles being distinct and bisegmented as in the latter, whereas the gnathochilarium has lost the distinctness of its sclerites as in the former. From both they differ in the form of the head, which is triangular, with one or more pairs of eyes and a relatively narrow frontal area between the bases of the antennæ. *Siphonotus*, which occurs in South America, has a single pair of ocelli; *Polyzonium* and *Octoglena* from three to four pairs in a subvertical series. *Polyzonium* has been recorded from Indiana and Tennessee; *Octoglena*, which is said to be distinguished from it by the emargination of the anterior tergite and the exposure of the eyes, from Georgia [see Bollman, Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. no. 46, pp. 117, 137, 154, 187 (1893)].

Fam. PLATYDESMIDÆ.

Head broadly cordate, narrowed in the labral region, the edge of which is bluntly pointed. Antennæ lateral. Mandibles present, bisegmented. Gnathochilarium distinct, narrowed distally, but otherwise departing but little from the type characteristic of the Chilognatha, the lingual lobes and stipites with or without distinct terminal pieces; mentum large, L-shaped. Terga with median groove, two rows of tubercles, and large carinæ. Pleural area membranous. Penes perforating coxæ of second legs.

Distribution. Mediterranean Region; Central Asia (Amurland); Malacca, Sumatra; United States; Central America.

PLATYDESMUS.

Platydesmus, Lucas, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. (2) i. p. 51 (1843) (type *P. polydesmoides*); and subsequent authors.

Piestodesmus, Lucas, Rev. et Mag. Zool. 1849, p. 598 (type *P. moreleti*).

Characters as diagnosed below (p. 44).

Distribution. Central America.

instead of from the two pairs of the seventh segment. The question must still be regarded as open; and Cook's view may prove correct. But in a male specimen of *Platydesmus perpictus* I find 76 pairs of legs and 38 segments (excluding the last two) behind the phallopods, which gives two pairs of legs to each of the segments in question, as in other Helminthomorphous Chilognatha. Whereas, if Cook's interpretation be adopted, this specimen has only a single pair on the last leg-bearing segment.