

clavate, and the first tergal plate has an anterior row of granules—features which are also possessed by *Peridontodesmus*. The latter, however, is obviously a more primitive type, as is shown by the small size of the first tergal plate and the width of the sternal areas; and it may well be that *Peridontodesmus* is allied to the ancestral type from which *Cryptodesmus* is descended; but since no intermediate genera are, so far as I am aware, known, and since the structural differences between them are considerable, I see no course open at present but to regard *Peridontodesmus* as the type of a distinct family.

### PERIDONTODESMUS.

*Peridontodesmus*, Silvestri, Ann. Mus. Genova, (2) xvi. p. 197 (1896); Attems, Denk. Akad. Wien, lxviii. p. 358 (1900).

*Integument* coriaceous. *Head* without frontal sulcus. *Antennæ* rather widely separated, moderately long, incrassate to the sixth segment, which is much the largest of the series, third segment much longer than the second or fourth. *First tergal plate* transversely subelliptical, much wider than the head, but not covering it anteriorly; its anterior edge finely, its lateral angle more strongly toothed. *Keels* of the other segments large, horizontal, high on the sides, so that the dorsal surface is moderately flat, with untoothed anterior border and strongly toothed lateral and posterior borders; the metazonites with three transverse rows of small setiferous tubercles; a shallow groove lying between the first and second rows; a few small setiferous tubercles on the upper side of the keels; the large marginal teeth also bearing setæ. *Pores* normal in number, but small and placed just above the edge of the postero-lateral tooth. *Anal tergal plate* triangular, pointed, the terminal portion not constricted. *Valves* flattened, lightly convex above, flattened inferiorly; margins very feebly thickened. *Anal sternal plate* wide, sides strongly converging, posterior border straight; setæ widely separated. *Sternal areas* longer than wide, but not narrow. *Legs* with second segment long, nearly as long as the third, which is shorter than the sixth.

*Phallopods* with coxal segment very large, fused anteriorly to its fellow of the opposite side, with long curved calcar in the normal position and a second calcar projecting inwards from its outer edge; distal segment very stout at the base, narrowed distally and tapering into a longish flagelliform process; attached to its lower surface there is a stout, crescentically curved rod, which tapers posteriorly into a shorter flagelliform process and anteriorly into a much longer and thinner curved flagellum. On the inner side of the thickened portion of the distal segment there arises a subcylindrical piece which projects forwards at first, then narrows and curves abruptly downwards on the inner side of the two forwardly directed flagella, is sinuous distally, and ends in a point. This is probably the seminal style. Genital processes of second leg of male short, with blunt apex.

Type, *P. woodianus*.

*Distribution.* CENTRAL AMERICA.

The male-characters of the typical species of this genus, *P. woodianus*, are unrecorded, those given above being taken from the males of the species from Guatemala described below. Hence it is impossible to know which features they present have a specific and which a generic value.

### Key to the Species.

- a. Antero-lateral tooth of the keels, except at the posterior end of the body,  
 large, acute, and projecting as far laterally as the pore-bearing tooth;  
 lateral border of keels of second with four teeth . . . . . *flagellatus*.