

THE TAXONOMIC STATUS OF "*PYCNOGONUM*" *CLAUDUM*
LOMAN, 1908

by

J. H. STOCK

(Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam)

"Ich musz, der kleinen, unausgewachsenen Eierträger halber, das Tier für noch unreif halten.

"Darum wage ich es nicht zu entscheiden, ob es zu *Pycnogonum* gehört, oder ein neues Genus bilden musz; denn es ist wohl möglich, dasz bei einer nächsten Häutung auch die rudimentairen Cheliforen abgeworfen werden. Wegen seiner äuzern Ähnlichkeit mit *Pycnogonum* wurde es vorläufig unter dieser Gattung aufgeführt."

J. C. C. LOMAN: Die Pantopoden der Siboga-Expedition, 1908, p. 36-37; Pl. XV, fig. 200-203.

LOMAN already hesitatingly classified this species with the genus *Pycnogonum* BRÜNNICH. The chelifores, lacking in *Pycnogonum*, are present in this species, although they are very short. LOMAN remarked that this animal might possibly lose its chelifores during one of the next moults; the not fully developed ovigers indicate that the animal was a young one.

It is difficult for me to decide whether LOMAN is right in supposing that the chelifores disappeared later on. The species, however, shows a number of characters which make it probable that it does not belong to *Pycnogonum* BRÜNNICH, but to an undescribed genus, which I propose to call *Pycnopallene*:

Pycnogonum BRÜNNICH

Palpi lacking.
Lateral processes hardly separated.
Tarsus much shorter than propodus.
Proboscis clumsy, as a rule much shorter than the body, conical, greatest diameter on base.

Pycnopallene, nov. gen.

Palpi reduced to a little knob.
Lateral processes separated by at least their own diameter.
Tarsus as long as or longer than propodus.
Proboscis slender, little shorter than the body \pm shuttle-shaped; greatest diameter at $\frac{1}{4}$ of its length.

Eyes: on the cranial half of the cephalic segment (in front of the implantation of the first pair of legs).

Oviger with a nail, 9-jointed.

Eyes: on the caudal half of the cephalic segment (off the implantation of the first pair of legs).

Oviger without nail, 10 (?)-jointed.

Unfortunately, the oviger is not fully developed, so that the exact number of its joints cannot be determined with certainty. With some hesitation LOMAN described the oviger as 9-jointed, but after studying LOMAN's type, I think there is an indication to consider it 10-jointed. Species with 9-, or 10-jointed ovigers, in combination with reduced palpi are classed with the family Phoxichilidiidae SARS, 1891, or with the family Pallenidae WILSON, 1878. A 10-jointed oviger is characteristic of the last family. Some details, which might be considered unimportant in themselves, likewise point to the relationship of this species with the Pallenidae WILSON, if taken together. In the following list these differences between the Phoxichilidiidae SARS and the Pallenidae WILSON are summarized. The characters agreeing with the animal in question are marked with an asterisk *.

Phoxichilidiidae SARS, 1891

Ovigers 5-9 jointed.
Spines in rows on the oviger.

Palpi lacking, or only present in ♀ as a rudiment.

Eyes: as a rule in front of the cephalic segment.

No species known with reduced chelifores.

Pallenidae, WILSON, 1878

Ovigers 10-jointed (?).
Spines (if present) with varying placing. *

Palpi lacking, rudimentary or 1-4 jointed. *

Eyes: in or behind the middle of the cephalic segment. *

Reduced chelifores occur in *Hannonia* HOEK, 1881. *

In the family Pallenidae our species shows some relationship to *Hannonia* HOEK, because of the reduced chelifores. Nevertheless our species does not belong to *Hannonia* HOEK:

Hannonia HOEK, 1881

Palpi lacking.
Tarsus much shorter than propodus.

Pycnopallene, nov. gen.

Palpi reduced.
Tarsus as long as propodus.

Because of its long tarsus this genus occupies an independent place in the family Pallenidae WILSON, but especially on account of its reduced chelifores it seems related to *Hannonia* HOEK.

***Pycnopallene*, nov. gen.**

LOMAN, Die Pantopoden der Siboga-Expedition, 1908; p. 36-37.— *Pycnogonum* (?) *claudum*; Pl. XV, fig. 200-203.

Genotype. — *Pycnopallene clauda* (LOMAN); holotype in the Zoologisch Museum, Amsterdam, 1♂. Locality: Sepeh Bay, Sumbawa, 75 m.

Diagnosis. — Body segmentated; proboscis shuttle-shaped, little shorter than the body; chelifores with small chelae, much shorter than proboscis, rudimentary; palpi reduced to knobs; ovigers probably 10-jointed (see fig. 1) and nearly without hairs and spines; lateral processes separated by at least their own diameter; tarsus in any case as long as the propodus. Descriptions and figures: see LOMAN, 1908, loc. cit.

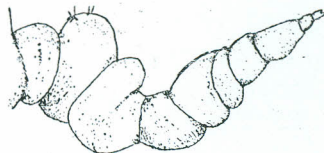


Fig. 1. *Pycnopallene clauda* (LOMAN), oviger (magnified).