Notes on the Myriaceae of Liverpool Bay.

By A.O. Walker, F.L.S.

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In Bell's "History of British Stalk-eyed Gasteropods," only one genus (Myia) = Thyoneope, being now placed in a separate family, with three species is recorded, as belonging to the family Myriaceae. The number has since been greatly increased, the genera now being Eustygia, Myriaceae, Thyoneope, Myia, and Spirula, containing at least thirteen species in addition to those described by Bell. Most of these are enumerated by the Rev. Canon A. M. Norman, in the Ann. and Mag. of Nat. Hist.: for 1887.

The British species of the genus Myia, so far as known to me, are:

- Myia flexuosa, Miller = M. chamaleon, Thomon.
- M. incisa, Richter...
- M. acutirostris, Sars...
- M. rhinoceros, Norman...
- M. longissima, Couch...
- M. longicollis, Couch...
- M. vulgaris, Thomon...
- M. elongata, Couch...
- M. acrolepis, Bell...

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The Myriaceae of Liverpool Bay

Of the above species only two were recorded in last year's report of the Liverpool Marine Biology Committee, viz. M. acrolepis and M. longicollis, both of which are tolerably common in the Morrith Wales coast. So these must now be added. M. vulgaris, taken last summer by Mr. F. Archer, at the mouth of the Alt. Mr. Archer kindly sent me twelve specimens, of which nine were males and three females. They proved to be remarkable from the fact that four of the males and two of the females had the tail...

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c. Sars = Nyt Bidrag til Kgl. danske Videnskabs-Selskabs, ser. 5.

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Note: See also Sars, Monograph of the Norwegian Myriaceae, for figures and descriptions of most of the above species.
piece or tail (i.e. the modified terminal segment of the pleon or abdomen) abnormal.

The normal telson tapers gradually with almost straight sides to a narrow apex, which terminates in two strong and rather long spines, having two very small spines between them (fig. 1). In one of the males the abnormality consists only in having three instead of two small spines between them, but in the other three abnormal males and in the two females the spines at the apex are much more numerous, and are irregular in size and direction, and in one of the females the telson itself is markedly asymmetrical, as shown by the drawing (fig. 2).

Mr. Arber informs me that there is much revenue in the Art which may perhaps be the cause of the abnormality in question. Had only one of the abnormal specimens been taken without any of the normal form, it is easily conceivable that a new species might have been founded on it; the moral of which is that when one has a chance of securing a number of specimens one should always do so.

Note. - Since the above was written I have taken Myxos barnaculue (Coull) at Colwyn Bay in three fathoms on the 24th May 1877. It was taken with other Barnacles in a dredge, lined with canvas, and having the edges protected by round sticks fastened on them so as to prevent them from digging into the sand.
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Chianus simplex (g.e.). Nine were taken with the mumps net in the garden in the west end of Bullhead Bank.

Davidsonia marina, 9 ½ 4. Two taken off the Polzeath in 2-3 fathoms.

Davidsonia angustissima, 1 ½ 4. One taken off the Polzeath in 2-3 fathoms.

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Macraeanus ferox, Miller. Taken everywhere in more or less abundance when using the mumps net broad. Common in the dock.

Schizaea angustata, A. N. Norman. One taken between Falmouth and Mobile Sands.

Schizaea vulgaris, J. & S. More or less common everywhere inside the estuary with H. didactylus. One taken in the dock.

We are indebted to Mr. W. F. Beament for the following note on this species:

"I think some of Schizaea vulgaris from Exmouth, while agreeing generally with the description of A. N. Norman, and with the figure of the plant named Miller, apparently refers to the type in certain particulars, as it has been found, when not bent, in the head. Specimens examined (male and female), from 9 to 13 mm. in length, inclusive of terminal roots, are unequal, the number of spines on the margin of the inner sepal leaves from twelve to sixteen, while in immature examples of 8 mm., terminal spines and ten spines respectively in these offshoots and in all the different in length between inner and outer sepal leaves are marked, than in that type. A further point of agreement with the published description concerns the last pair of spines, which in Exmouth examples can be strictly described as "microspines", or so being about half the length of preceding ones. In point of fact they are very much shorter than some of the anterior pair, but the increase in size is exhibited gradually in parasitic pairs, and therefore a word is present, though small."

Macraeanus vulgaris (J. N. Thompson). A few taken in the sandbank off Falmouth mouth (other 2).