Protodesmoscolex antarcticos, new species

(Figs. 52–53)

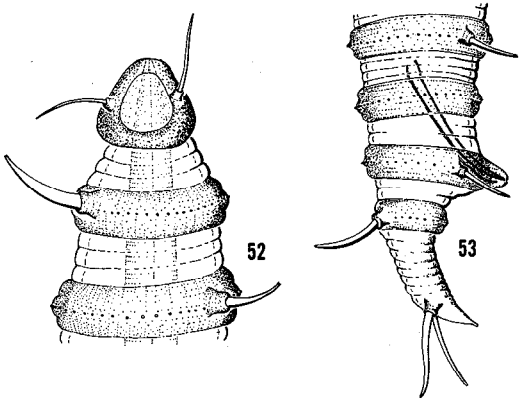
Holotype male: L = 280μ; mbd = 43μ; hd = 12μ × 9μ; t = 38μ; cs = 9μ; ss1 = 11μ; ts = 19μ.

Description.—Body having 17 light granular rings of 3 annules each, with a row of small pegs in the center of the middle annules; interzones as broad as rings, with 1–3 clear annules. Head bearing pedunculate, thin, pointed cephalic setae and faint oval amphids. Stoma absent. Subdorsal setae thick, with blunt open tip; subventral setae thin and bluntly pointed. Setal pattern: $\frac{1,3,5,7,9,11,13,17}{2,4,6,8,10,12,14,16}$. Anus in ring 16; prominent cloacal cone. Spicules 24μ long; short parallel gubernaculum. Tail spike 22μ long, annulated. Phasmata not observed.

Type habitat and locality.—Deep-sea dredgings, Gauss Station, Antarctica, 66°2′9″S, 89°38′E.

Holotype male: Collected by German South-Polar Expedition, 6 December, 1902; USDA Slide T134t.

Diagnosis.—This species differs from all the 17-ring species of *Desmoscolex* in the location of the cloacal aperture in ring 16 and in the setal distribution pattern. A single female 300μ long with the same chaetotaxy was found at a depth of 40 fathoms in the Indian Ocean, but the tail cone is broad for most of its length and pegs are not present on the rings.



Figs. 52–53. *Protodesmoscolex antarcticos,* n.g., n.sp. 52. male head; 53. male tail.