

tion. It may be similar to the "Schluck-offnung" observed by Vogt in certain marine Trematodes.<sup>7</sup>

The genital orifice, as in *D. dimorphum*, is situated behind the ventral sucker about 1 mm. No cirrus was detected. The oval eggs have a thickish yellow shell, with a lid at the narrow end, and measure 0.099 mm. by 0.066 mm.

2.—*DISTOMUM ASPERUM*, n. sp.

One of the two examples of *Botaurus minor* above referred to yielded ten specimens of a Distome occupying two varicose dilatations of the bile-duct, recalling the swollen bile-ducts described by Cobbold<sup>8</sup> in a Porpoise. The worms proved to belong to Dujardin's sub-genus *Echinostoma*; and I at first believed that they might be *D. ferox*, Zeder, first detected by Goeze in dilated intestinal follicles of *Ardea stellaris*. I was more inclined to do so from discrepancies in the various descriptions of this form.<sup>9</sup> Certain peculiarities, however, seem to me to mark it off from that species, of which it is undoubtedly a near relative, and I accordingly propose the specific name "*asperum*" for my specimens.

DESCRIPTION (Figs. 3, 4, 5).—Body yellowish white, 8.19 mm. long, 1.8 mm. broad in middle, tapering gradually to each end; the head and anterior part of neck narrower than tail; covered entirely with persistent spines 0.054 mm. long, somewhat sparse posteriorly; head reniform, with a coronet of 27 obtusely-pointed spines, four of which on each side of a median ventral notch are larger (0.155–0.16 mm.) than the others (0.117 mm.), and radiate from nearly a common point of origin; anterior sucker terminal, with projecting circular lip 0.14 mm. in diam.; ventral large (0.75 mm.), situated at junction of anterior and middle thirds of body. Vitelligenous glands chiefly in neck, but accompanying intestinal coeca to posterior end.

The orbicular neck of *D. ferox*, its deciduous spines only present anteriorly, the position of its ventral sucker, and the constriction of the body there, together with the arrangement of the coronal spines, seem to distinguish it effectually from *D. asperum*.<sup>10</sup> The genital

<sup>7</sup> Zeit. f. Wiss. Zool., B. XXX., Suppl., p. 307, f.

<sup>8</sup> Jour. Linn. Soc. XIII., p. 39.

<sup>9</sup> For lit. see Dies. Syst. I., p. 387; Molin. Denkschr. d. k. Akad. in Wien XIX., p. 219; Olsson, Kongl. Svensk. Vetensk. Akad. Handlingar. XIV., p. 22. I have not access to Van Beneden's paper, "Sur la cigogne blanche et ses parasites." Bull. Acad. Belg. XXV.

<sup>10</sup> Cf. Fig. 4 with Olsson's Fig. 50 loc. cit.; also V. Linstow's descr. Trosch. Archiv., 1873, . 106, and Dujardin's.