

expressly remark that this sketch, like all similar attempts possesses only a provisional value.

The numerous classes distinguished in the tribe of Worms, and which almost every zoologist groups and defines according to his own personal views, are, in the first place, divided into two essentially different groups or branches, which in my Monograph of the Calcareous Sponges I have termed *Accelomi* and *Coelomati*. For all the lower Worms which are comprised in the class of Flat-worms (*Platyhelminthes*), (the Gliding-worms, Sucker-worms, Tape-worms), differ very strikingly from other Worms, in the fact that they possess neither blood nor body-cavity (no *coelome*); they are, therefore, called *Accelomi*. The true cavity, or *coelome*, is completely absent in them as in all the *Zoophytes*; in this important respect the two groups are directly allied. But *all other Worms* (like the four higher tribes of animals) possess a genuine body-cavity and a vascular system connected with it, which is filled with blood; hence we class them together as *Coelomati*.

The main division of *Bloodless Worms* (*Accelomi*) contains, according to our phylogenetic views, besides the still living Flat-worms, the unknown and extinct primary forms of the whole tribe of Worms, which we shall call the *Primæval Worms* (*Archelminthes*). The type of these *Primæval Worms*, the ancient *Prothelms*, may be directly derived from the *Gastræa* (p. 133). Even at present the *Gastrula*-form — the faithful historical portrait of the *Gastræa* — recurs in the ontogenesis of the most different kinds of worms as a transient larva-form. The ciliated Gliding-worms (*Turbellaria*), the primary group of the present Planary or Flat-worms (*Platyhelminthes*), are the