IV.—On the Male of *Stephanoceros Eichhorni*.

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(Read 19th February, 1896.)

PLATE V.

ALTHOUGH the female of this charming Rotifer has been known since 1761, when on the 20th July of that year it unfolded its corona before the astonished eyes of Pastor Johann Conrad Eichhorn, of Danzig, and although it has been seen and closely watched by thousands of observers since, the male has only been discovered in recent years by Mr. John Hood, of Dundee, and made known by Mr. George Western in the Journal of the Quekett Microscopical Club for July 1893, vol. v. pp. 157–8.

Early in January 1895, Mr. Hood sent me a quantity of *Stephanoceros Eichhorni*, with many male eggs, which are more numerous and smaller than the ordinary female eggs, in the tubes, and I was successful in hatching a number of them in a small trough, thus enabling me to make the accompanying sketches of them.

Like most male Rotifers, they are restless, and swim about in an apparently aimless manner.

The dorsal antenna is situated on a small hump, and at each side of it lie the lateral antennæ. In some animals these are furnished with a bunch of long fine setæ, though in several examples that I looked at most carefully I was unable to find them; it is possible they may get broken off.

The many-celled sperm-sac (in which may be seen the spermatozoa actively lashing their flagella) takes the place of the stomach and intestine. The vascular system, with its contractile vesicle, is normal.

The corona is circular, and furnished with a wreath of fine vibratile cilia; the front of the head is conical, and two red eyes, rather wide apart, are conspicuous.

Owing to their flexible nature, it is difficult to fix the exact size. I put it down at $1/90$ in. to $1/80$ in., though they can elongate to $1/60$ in., or even longer.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE V.

Fig. 1.—Lateral view.
„ 2.—Dorsal view.

F.R. Dixon & J. T. Hall, del. ad nat.

West, Newman sc.

Stephanoecerus Eichhornii (male).