

and *Amphioxus* one common ancestral group of chordate animals, the hypothetical *Prochordonia*. The modern Copelata give us a remote idea of their structure. The curious *Balanoglossus*, the only living form of *Enteropneusta*, seems to connect these *Prochordonia* with the *Nemertina* and other *Vermalia*, which we unite in one large class—*Frontonia*.

No doubt these pre-Cambrian *Vermalia*, and the common root of all *Metazoa*, the *Gastræades*, were connected during the Laurentian period by a long chain of intermediate forms, and probably among these were some older forms of *Rotatoria* and *Turbellaria*; but at present it is not possible to fill this wide gap with hypotheses that are satisfactory, and we have to admit that here indeed are many missing links in the older history of the *Invertebrata*. Still, every zoologist who is convinced of the truth of transformism, and is accustomed to phylogenetic speculations, knows very well that their results are most unequal, often incomplete.