way for the frequent occurrence of spermatophores glued to the back of the female, usually on the penultimate thoracic ring. This I have seen so often, that I came to recognise the females of the species, under the hand lens, by that character alone. It is obvious that the fixture of a spermatophore in that situation must be an entirely futile proceeding, but it is equally evident, from the abundance of the species, that plenty of spermatophores must get properly located. The males of *Undina darwinii* are extremely abundant, and must, if we take as a law the proportions of the sexes amongst other Copepoda, and especially amongst the species of the nearly allied genus *Euchæta*—be far more than sufficient for the impregnation of the females. The competition for females will thus be very severe, and in the heat of the chase it seems very possible that miscarriages of the kind referred to may often happen. If this explanation be fanciful or wide of the mark, the fact of the common malposition of the spermatophores is, at any rate, an interesting one.

Scolecithrix,[1] n. gen.

Undina, Lubbock (in part) Trans. Entom. Soc., 1856.
(?) *Undina*, Claus, Die frei lebenden Copepoden, 1863.

Head and thorax coalescent, rostrum short and furcate, posterior ventral angle of cephalothorax somewhat produced. Anterior antennæ in the female twenty to twenty-three-jointed, in the male nineteen-jointed, not geniculated. Mandibles well developed. Inner branch of the maxilla very small. Inner (secondary) branch of the posterior antenna longer than the outer, its first joint imperfectly divided near the base, two small joints intercalated between it and the terminal joint. Anterior foot-jaw bearing at the apex, instead of the usual curved setæ, a bunch of thick flexuous (sensory ?) filaments. Posterior foot-jaws nearly as in *Calanus*. Inner branches of the first pair of feet one-, of the second two-jointed, of the third and fourth pairs three-jointed, the first joint in all cases very small. Fifth pair of feet in the female wanting or rudimentary, in the male elongated and prehensile. Abdomen in both sexes four-jointed; no long tail seta.

Claus states that the first pair of foot-jaws in the male *Undina messinensis* are obsolete. This is certainly not the case in the typical *Undinæ*, nor is it so in the species which I have here referred to the new genus *Scolecithrix*. If it be really so in *Undina messinensis*, another genus must be established for the reception of that species, unless, indeed, it be referable to *Euchæta*. Another important difference, noticed by Claus, is in the structure of the posterior antennæ, the outer branch of which is very much smaller than in any species of *Undina* or *Scolecithrix* known to me.

[1] σκώληξ, a worm ; θρίξ, hair.