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THE EMBRYOLOGY OF CREPIDULA,

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE CELL LINEAGE AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF SOME MARINE GASTEROPODS.

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A. INTRODUCTION.

1. Purpose and History of the Work.

THE purpose of the following work from its inception has been to make as careful a study as possible of the cleavage of the ovum, the formation of the germinal layers and definitive organs, and the axial relations of the ovum to the larval and adult axes. At the time when this work was begun, several years ago, scarcely any attempts had been made to trace the history of individual blastomeres through the entire development to the formation of definitive organs. The early stages of cleavage had received a great deal of attention, but the later stages had been largely neglected; and although the origin and homology of the germ layers was perhaps the most frequently discussed subject in embryology, yet the relation of these layers to the individual blastomeres of the cleaving ovum had been determined in comparatively few cases. Since that