

“In the Family Molgulidæ, beyond the two gigantic pedunculated forms, destitute both of hair-like processes from the test and incrusting sand, which have been placed in the new genus *Ascopera*, no very striking novelties were discovered. In the Ascidiidæ, however, there are three noteworthy new genera—*Corynascidia*, *Abyssascidia*, and *Hypobythius*, all from deep water. Of the last, one species, *Hypobythius calycodes*, was described by Mr. Moseley,¹ and a second, *Hypobythius moseleyi*, agreeing with the first in the simple structure of the branchial sac, but differing in the body form and some other details, was afterwards found in the collection. *Corynascidia suhmi* (see fig. 68) is, like so many other of the abyssal forms, supported upon a peduncle. The position and course of the intestine are peculiar,² and the branchial sac is one of the most beautiful and delicate known. The third genus, *Abyssascidia*, is a connecting link between the well-known genera *Ascidia* and *Corella*. It resembles the latter genus in the position and especially in the course of the intestine, while in the structure of the branchial sac it differs greatly from *Corella*, and exhibits the simpler arrangement found in *Ascidia*, from which again it differs in the condition of the dorsal lamina, and in the large number of lobes surrounding the branchial and atrial apertures.

“A little group of three species, for which the new genus *Ecteinascidia* has been founded, forms a connecting link between the previously known Clavelinidæ and the Ascidiidæ, and shows that the group of Social Ascidiæ, established in 1828 by Milne-Edwards, must now be merged in the Ascidiæ Simplicis.

“The geographical distribution of the Simple Ascidiæ is very wide, but it appears from the Challenger investigations that they are not abundant in the northern hemisphere, and are comparatively scarce in tropical latitudes, while they attain their greatest numerical development in southern temperate regions. The bathymetrical range is also wide, extending from the littoral zone down to 2900 fathoms. Out of 82 species, 47 were found between the shore and 50 fathoms, and only 7 at depths over 2000 fathoms. The tables given in the



FIG. 68.—*Corynascidia suhmi*, Herdman. Seen from the right side, natural size.

¹ Moseley, *Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond. (Zool.)*, ser. 2, vol. i. p. 287, 1877.

² See Report on the Tunicata, Part I., Zool. Chall. Exp., part xvii. p. 283.