

## Tribe VI. CERIANTHEÆ.

Actiniaria with numerous unpaired septa and a single ventral œsophageal groove; the septa are longest on the ventral side and gradually diminish towards the dorsal aspect; the two septa attached to the bottom of the œsophageal groove (directive septa) are remarkably small, and are distinguished in this way from the other ventral septa.

I have made no further anatomical investigations of the Ceriantheæ, and cannot even complete the statements which were formerly made by von Heider (Sitzungber. d. Wiener Akad. Math. Naturw. Cl., Bd. lxxix. Abth. 1, p. 204, Jahrg., 1879), and my brother and myself (Actinien, p. 107). From these we cannot even certainly determine what position the animals occupy in the circle of the Actiniaria, and whether or not they ought to be placed in one of the known principal divisions. They are distinguished from all the forms previously discussed, except the Edwardsiæ, by the fact that they want the paired arrangement of the septa—at least up to the present it has not been observed in them. They come nearest the Zoantheæ, as they have only one œsophageal groove; the septa also appear not to be disposed in a circle, but in the region of a limited zone of growth, which, however, lies dorsally, not ventrally as in the Zoantheæ. In this case the largest septa are found in the region of the œsophageal groove, and the septa gradually decrease in size from that point to the opposite end of the sagittal axis; two pairs of very small septa lie under the œsophageal groove, to which the name of directive septa is given more from their position than from their anatomical constitution.

## Family CERIANTHIDÆ.

Ceriantheæ with a double corona of tentacles, marginal principal tentacles and circum-oral accessory tentacles, posterior end of the body rounded, without sphincter.

*Cerianthus*, Delle Chiaje.

Cerianthidæ with aboral pore, with a sheath consisting of mud, sand granules, and nematocysts, in which the posterior end of the animal lies as if in a case.

*Cerianthus americanus*.

*Cerianthus americanus*, Verrill, Memoirs Boston Soc., vol. i. p. 32, 1866.

*Habitat*.—Station 321. February 25, 1876. Lat. 35° 2' S., long. 55° 15' W. Depth, 13 fathoms. One specimen.

*Dimensions*.—Length of the animal (in the contracted condition), 12 cm.; breadth of the oral disk, 3.5 cm.; length of the inner tentacles, 2–2.5 cm.; of the outer tentacles, 4–5 cm.