

corm, whilst they form a closed bilaterally compressed calyx in the rapidly swimming animal.

*Palpons* (*q*).—The corona of palpons, which is placed immediately beyond the corona of bracts in the Nectalidæ, is comparable to that of the Anthophysidæ as well as of the Discolabidæ. The number of palpons, however, is much smaller than in the last two families, and seems not to exceed that of the superjacent bracts. It may be that each palpon and the appertaining bract originally composed a medusome, the former representing its manubrium, the latter its reduced umbrella. The distal end of the tubular, very mobile palpons, seems to possess a mouth-opening (fig. 2, *qo*), and in this case they should be called cystons. Palpacles or tasting filaments were not observed.

*Siphons* (*s*).—The large polypites of *Nectalia* exhibit distinctly the four usual segments, a short pedicle, a basigaster with very thick wall filled by cnidocysts (figs. 2, 13, *sb*), a stomach (*sm*), the inside of which bears longitudinal rows of glandular villi (*sv*), and a very extensile and contractile proboscis with a thick muscular wall (*sr*). The distal mouth of the latter is four-lobed (*so*).

*Tentacles* (*t*).—The long tubular tentacle which is attached to the base of each siphon bears a series of numerous tentilla. The cnidosac of the latter includes in *Nectalia* a strong, spirally-twisted cnidoband, and bears at its distal end a simple terminal filament; the latter is replaced in *Sphyrophysa* by an odd terminal vesicle and two lateral horns. The difference between the two genera is therefore similar to that between *Stephanomia* and *Agalma*, or between *Halistemma* and *Agalmopsis*.

*Gonophores*.—The corms of *Nectalia* are monœcious and the cormidia monoclinic, since two clustered gonodendra, a male and a female, are attached near the base of each siphon. The medusoid gonophores are very small and numerous, and have a reduced umbrella. As usual, the spermata are oblong or spindle-shaped, the ovaria roundish or subspherical.

Genus 54a. *Nectalia*,<sup>1</sup> Hæckel, 1888.

*Nectalia*, Hkl., System der Siphonophoren, p. 41.

*Definition*.—Nectalidæ with a biserial nectosome, composed of two opposite rows of nectophores. Cnidosacs of the tentilla with a simple terminal filament.

The genus *Nectalia*, as the type of this family, is represented by the North Atlantic species figured in Pl. XIII. It is similar to *Physophora*, but differs from it essentially in the corona of large bracts which separates the biserial nectosome and the flower-shaped siphosome. The cnidosacs of the tentilla bear a simple terminal filament.

The single specimen of this genus which I have examined, and which is described in the sequel, I captured by scooping it up with a glass vessel without touching it, on

<sup>1</sup> *Nectalia* = Swimming in the sea; νήματα, ἄλιος.