

occurs on the British coast, where it is perhaps the most abundant of all the large Hydroids there found, while it is also one of the most widely distributed throughout the North Atlantic region. It is of rather robust habit, and is at once distinguished from every other species by its flask-shaped hydrothecæ, with their attenuated diverging necks.

*Diphasia*, Agassiz.

*Sertularia*, Linn. (in part).

*Diphasia*, Agassiz, Nat. Hist. U.S., vol. iv. p. 355.

*Generic Character. Trophosome.*—Colony dendritic; hydrocaulus divided by equidistant joints into internodes, each of which carries a pair of hydrothecæ. Hydrothecæ sessile, more or less adnate by their walls to the hydrocaulus, distichous, opposite or subopposite, with entire or emarginate rim, and with a lid-like operculum formed by a single valve.

*Gonosome.*—Gonophores adelocodonic. Gonangia in female colonies crowned by a marsupial chamber enclosed within chitinous walls, gonangia in male destitute of marsupium.

The genus *Diphasia* was founded by Agassiz for the purpose of including species hitherto placed in *Sertularia*, but which differ from the true *Sertulariæ* in the gonangia of the female colony carrying on their summit a special chamber enclosed within lobe-like extensions of the chitinous walls of the proper gonangium. Into this chamber the ova are at an early stage expelled from the gonangium in order to undergo further development before the escape of the embryo into the surrounding water. No marsupium is present in the male.<sup>1</sup>

The hydrothecæ are provided with a peculiar membranous lid, which springs by a hinge-like joint from one point of the rim, and forms when depressed a transverse septum just within the margin.

*Diphasia pinaster* (Ellis and Solander) (Pl. XXX. figs. 2, 2a, 2b, 2c).

*Sertularia pinaster*, Ellis and Solander, Zooph., p. 55, pl. vi.

*Diphasia pinaster*, Agassiz, Nat. Hist. United States, vol. iv. p. 355.

" " Hincks, Brit. Hydroid Zooph., vol. i. p. 252, pl. 1. fig. 1.

*Trophosome.*—Stem monosiphonic, unbranched, set with alternate pinnæ. Hydrothecæ borne both by stem and pinnæ, subopposite, cylindrical, adnate to the hydrocaulus for about two-thirds of their height, then diverging at a wide angle; orifice oblique, crowned by a membranous valve-like lid.

<sup>1</sup> The "acrocyst" which in certain species of *Sertularia* (e.g. *Sertularia pumila*) is formed on the summit of the female gonangium, differs from the marsupium of *Dipharia* in the fact of its being never included within an external chamber bounded by chitinous walls.