from which they are emitted to give any indication that these are destined for branches and not for hydranths.

The gonangia are borne along the stems and branches. They spring each from a point just below a hydrotheca, and extend over a space corresponding in height to that of about three consecutive hydrothecæ. They are oboviform and strongly annulated, but are closely pressed to the hydrocaulus, and in consequence present at their epicauline side a deep, longitudinal furrow, whose sides overlap the hydrocaulus, and into which the annulation does not extend. Their summit carries the sessile, elliptical orifice.

The specimens have a height of between two and three inches, and were dredged in Simon's Bay, from a depth of 10 to 20 fathoms.

In a collection of Hydroids belonging to Miss H. Gatty is a small dry specimen of a Hydroid from an unknown locality, which, notwithstanding some slight differences, must be referred to the species here described.[1] It differs from the Challenger specimen in having the orifice of the hydrotheca surrounded by a slightly thickened rim. The hydrotheca was probably prolonged beyond this rim by a membranous extension of its margin, but in the dried specimen nothing but a faint indication of this could be detected.

Another feature, probably transitory, in Miss Gatty's specimen, consists in the presence of a delicate diaphragm, apparently chitinous, which intersects the hydrotheca obliquely, passing from a point near the middle of the apocauline wall downwards to a point on the epicauline wall a little above the base of the hydrotheca. No trace of these diaphragms was present in the specimens collected by the Challenger. The diaphragm is apparently complete and strongly recalls the so-called epiphragm excreted by certain snails as a defence against the injurious action of climate and other unfavourable surroundings.

I am not disposed to regard either of these differences as affording grounds for specific separation. It is by no means improbable that the diaphragm seen in the hydrotheca is a temporary structure excreted over the retracted hydranth for protection during a resting or inactive period of its existence; and the differences between the two forms ought probably to be regarded as pointing to different states of one and the same species.

No gonosome was present in the specimen contained in Miss Gatty's collection.

Family IDIIDÆ.

Character of the Family. Trophosome.—Hydrothecæ adnate to the hydrocaulus. Cœnosarc divided into segments which form two longitudinal series of intercommunicating chambers, each of which corresponds to a hydranth, with the gastral cavity of which it is continuous.

[1] See *Journ. Linn. Soc. Lond.* (Zool.), vol. ix., March 1885.