(Pl. II. fig. 4). This circular ridge appears in transverse section as a pushing out of the body-wall, the circular muscle exhibiting a very different structure in the different regions. At the base of the organ the pleating of the muscle-lamella is insignificant, indeed weaker than at other points of the body-wall, but at both edges of the evagination it is exceptionally strong, and more especially so at the boundary of the oral disc. When the section comes to the actual spot on which one of the stomidia is set, the inner sphincter—as we call the nearest muscular pleating—is beautifully recognisable as a ridge projecting inwards, into the axis of which protrudes a mesoglœal ingrowth. From this axial ingrowth are given off on both sides richly branching mesoglœal lamellæ, clothed by powerful muscle-fibres in transverse section. At the remaining points, where the oral disc presents no stomidia, the sphincter is less clearly bounded, and resembles more the outer sphincter, which is essentially nothing but an approximation of muscular folds at two closely-adjacent points.

Relatively to the size of the animal, both sphincters are weak; a consequence of this is the fact that they have not drawn up the body-wall over the mouth disc, but that stomatodæum and oral disc have rather been pressed outwards.

The oral disc recalls in appearance a toadstool, having a faintly flesh-coloured surface, covered by whitish, slightly elevated spots. These spots are the stomidia or tentacles, which are distributed nearly up to the mouth, leaving but a narrow strip free. Between the stomidia the radial furrows run in undulating lines. Their number is difficult to determine, but may amount to about 400.

The stomidia are openings in the oral disc, surrounded by a slightly developed ridge, and projecting a little above the surface; roughly speaking, they are distributed uniformly over the oral disc, or allow only of a vague distinction into several zones. Of these zones one is peripheral, set close to the edge of the oral disc; one is central, not far from the oral opening; and two intermediate zones are placed between them. The openings increase in size from without towards the centre, and at the same time undergo an alteration of shape; in the peripheral zone they are like radially-set slits, with a long axis of 0·7–1·5 mm.; in the intermediate zones they are circular, with a diameter of 1–2 mm.; and in the central they again form slits of 2·0–2·5 mm. in the longer diameter, but are here placed at right angles to the radii.

The structure of the stomidia can best be exhibited by figures of transverse sections. Each stomidium completely occupies the intermediate space between two neighbouring mesenteries, and forms a tube, opening peripherally by a wide mouth. The walls of the tube appear in section to be direct continuations of the adjacent septa; morphologically their lower part is to be regarded as oral disc, their upper part as rudimentary tentacle; accordingly, they exhibit below the numerous muscular pleatings which at other points cause the radial ridges on the oral disc, while above these pleatings are absent. A remarkable structure is a small circular fold projecting below into