

*physa*, *Arethusa*, &c., in which each cormidium consists of a siphon with a tentacle and of one or more gonophores.

4. The *Athorome* of *Physophora* and of the Anthophysidæ, in which each cormidium consists of a siphon with a tentacle, one or more palpons, and one or more gonophores.

5. The *Crystallome* of *Crystallodes*, *Anthemodes* and other ordinate Physonectæ, in which each cormidium consists of a siphon with a tentacle, one or more palpons, one or more gonophores, and a group of bracts.

Much rarer and much less manifold are the ordinate *polygastric cormidia*, in which each group of persons contains several siphons (each with a tentacle); such occur in *Apolemia* among the Physonectæ, and in *Salacia* among the Cystonectæ. The line of the stem, in which the cormidia originally bud forth in uniform succession, is the ventral median line of the protosiphon; usually it is rolled up in a wide or narrow spiral, rarely it remains straight (*Crystallodes*, *Stephanomia*).

#### STEM OR TRUNK.

(*Cænosome*, *Cænosarc*, *Axial Body*.)

The stem of the Siphonophoræ, or the central axial body, on which all the various persons and organs of the corm are attached, is generally compared to the stem of a Hydropolyp stock. This comparison is in our opinion in the accurate sense illegitimate; for in the latter the primary larval body from which the corm develops is a Polyp-person, while in the former it is a Medusa-person. The comparison holds so far, however, inasmuch as the trunk is branched in both cases. It is not logical to describe the stem of the Siphonophoræ as "unbranched" as is generally done. In reality it is always branched, for all the appendages—whether they be interpretable as *persons* or as *organs*—arise as lateral branches of the axial body. Only the forking or *dichotomous ramification* is here absent. Further, the conventional description which is generally given of the stem or axial body of the Siphonophoræ is strictly applicable only to one legion of the class—to the Siphonanthæ. For it is here only that the stem (whether it be long or short) is formed from the *primary siphon*, and has all its appendages (or branches) budded off in a row from its ventral median line. That they are subsequently often radially disposed depends wholly upon a secondary spiral twisting of the stem, and displacement of its appendages. It is quite different in the second legion, the Disconanthæ. Here the proper stem, *i.e.*, the common central portion of the corm, is formed from the *primary umbrella*, and all its appendages (or branches) bud out from its lower or subumbrellar surface, not in one row, but in concentric circles or rings, which are originally octoradial. On the other hand the primary siphon in this legion has only the value of a central nutritive organ.