

canal. All other Diphyidæ possess a somatocyst in the first or apical nectophore; it must be regarded as the uppermost part of the original common stem, overgrown and enclosed by jelly-substance of the first nectophore. The somatocyst is usually rather large, spindle-shaped, or ovate, sometimes more cylindrical, at other times more ovate. Usually it ascends from the apex of the hydrœcium; but in *Abyla* it descends along its ventral side. The structure is the same as in the other Calyconectæ (compare above, p. 93).

*Siphosome*.—The tubular trunk or common stem of the Diphyidæ is very contractile, and beset at regular intervals with the cormidia, the number of which is very variable. The stem is very long in the lower and older forms of the family, in the Prayidæ and *Galeolaria*, where it sometimes attains a length of more than one metre, and bears more than one hundred cormidia. Their size and number are much smaller in the specialised Abylidæ, intermediate in the Diphyidæ. The contracted stem may usually be retracted more or less completely into the hydrœcium. The structure of the stem is described above (p. 94).

*Cormidia*.—The cormidia of the Diphyidæ, or the Diphyozoids of Huxley (9, pp. 57–66), occur in two different principal forms, eudoxomes and ersæomes. The majority of the genera possess eudoxomes; each cormidium is composed of a sterile medusome (bract with siphon and tentacle) and a fertile medusome (gonophore). The two genera *Lilyopsis* and *Diphyopsis* possess ersæomes, a sterile special nectophore, as locomotive person, being added to the eudoxome.

*Bracts*.—The bracts or hydrophyllia are of very different form and structure, characteristic of the single genera and even of the three subfamilies. The bracts are mitriform and rounded in the Prayidæ, spathiform or conical in the Diphyopsidæ, prismatic or polyhedral in the Abylidæ. Besides, the form and place of the phyllocyst, and the number, form, and course of the radial canals which arise from its base, exhibit characteristic differences in the various genera.

*Siphon and Tentacle*.—The form and structure of the polypites exhibit no important differences in the cormidia of the various Diphyidæ. The structure, too, of the tentacles is in general the same; but the special form of the tentilla, and especially the composition of the cnidosacs and the arrangement of their different cnidocysts, are subject to many specific variations.

*Eudoxiæ*.—The minority of the Diphyidæ produce sessile eudoxomes, which mature whilst attached to the stem. This is the case in some of the Prayidæ and in *Galeolaria*. In all the other Diphyidæ they become early detached from the stem, and mature as free Eudoxiæ (compare above, p. 101).

*Ontogeny*.—On the development of the Diphyidæ, compare above, pp. 100–102.