

Gonophores.—The sexual medusomes are placed at the distal base of the siphosome, below and inside the siphons. There seems to be a couple of clustered gonodendra (a male and a female) attached to the base of each siphon, composing with it (and with the appertaining palpon and bract) an ordinate monoclinic cormidium. The gonostyle of the male as well as of the female gonodendron is richly branched, the number of gonophores large, their size small. The spermata are oblongish, the ovaria roundish, as usual. The umbrella is reduced. The special structure of the gonophores, which I could not sufficiently examine, seems to be similar to that of *Physophora*.

Genus 54b. *Sphyrophysa*,¹ L. Agassiz, 1862.

Sphyrophysa, L. Agassiz, Contrib. Nat. Hist. U. S., vol. iv. p. 368.

Definition.—Nectalidæ with a quadriserial nectosome, composed of four cruciate rows of nectophores. Cnidosacs of the tentilla with three terminal appendages, an odd median ampulla, and two lateral horns.

The genus *Sphyrophysa* was established by L. Agassiz for the Physonect which Quoy and Gaimard had found in the Tropical Atlantic (lat. 7° N.) in February 1829, and figured under the name *Physophora intermedia* (2, p. 56, pl. i. figs. 10–18). As far as it is possible to recognise it from their incomplete representation, it seems to be closely allied to the preceding *Nectalia*, but differs from it in two essential characters of generic value. The nectosome seems to be composed not of two opposite, but of four cruciate rows of nectophores (as in *Discolabe* among the Physophoridæ). The cnidosacs of the tentilla are tricornuate, and bear at the distal end an odd median vesicle and two paired lateral horns (as in *Agalma*, &c.).

L. Agassiz also has placed in the same genus, *Sphyrophysa*, the similar Physonect which Huxley had described as *Agalma breve* (9, p. 75, pl. vii.). But this species is probably a true *Agalma*, and more allied to the form which Leuckart has described as *Agalma clavatum* (compare above, p. 226).

Family XVI. DISCOLABIDÆ, Haeckel, 1888.

Discolabidæ, Hkl., System der Siphonophoren, p. 41.

Physophoridæ, Huxley, et multor. autor.

Definition.—Physonectæ polygastricæ, with a short vesicular stem of the siphosome, bearing numerous siphons and a corona of large palpons (instead of the wanting bracts), each siphon provided with a branched tentacle. Nectosome with two, four, or more rows of nectophores. Pneumatophore with radial pouches.

¹ *Sphyrophysa* = Hammer-bladder, σφύρα, φύσα.