forming a complete external involucre. The canal of the pedicle runs along the extended and convex dorsal side of the involucre, which overgrows the ventral side. The axis of the spiral cnidoband, originally vertical, becomes more and more inclined, is afterwards horizontal and perpendicular to the axis of the pedicle, and finally inverted completely, so that the original distal end of the cnidoband is situated at the proximal base of the cnidosac, on its ventral side. The terminal filament, originally the simple prolongation of that distal end, is early divided into three apophyses, an odd median (the terminal ampulla) and two paired lateral horns (as in *Agalma*, &c.). But these are not fully developed (being rudimentary organs) and disappear finally. The basal point of their original insertion remains visible at the distal end of the reflected cnidoband, near the proximal base of the cnidosac, in its ventral median line. Compare the full description of this interesting metamorphosis by Gegenbaur (**10**, p. 63, Taf. xxx.), Claus (**34**, pp. 295 *et seq.*, Taf. xxvi.), Keferstein and Ehlers (**33**, p. 10, Taf. iv.), Sars (**27**, Heft. iii. Taf. v.), &c.

Palpons (Pl. XIX. fig. 1, *q*; Pl. XX. fig. 16, *q*).—The large corona of palpons, which expands at the base of the nectosome and covers the entire siphosome as a protective roof, is very characteristic of the Discolabidæ. The tasters or palpons are in this family far larger and relatively far more developed than in all the other Siphonophoræ. They are not only organs of feeling and tasting, but also of capturing and protecting; they were, therefore, formerly confounded with other organs; Vogt described them erroneously as bracts (**6**), and Claus as tentacles (**34**). Each cormidium possesses either a single or two palpons, a larger proximal and a smaller distal; and the corona, therefore, is either simple or double. This difference may perhaps serve also for the definition of genera, as I have employed it in my System (**95**, p. 41). *Discolabe* and *Stephanospira* possess a simple corona of tasters, while it is double in *Physophora*. But in this latter also usually one corona only (the upper and larger) is fully developed, and the accessory (lower and smaller) corona is incomplete or rudimentary. The development of the latter is variable in one and the same species (**74**, p. 15). Each palpon is a spindle-shaped, cylindrical, or slenderly pyriform tube, with a simple wide cavity and a very thick muscular wall; the structure of the wall is similar to that of the trunk; both the entoderm and exoderm are glandular; the fulcrum bears inside a plate of ring-muscles, outside numerous high radial folds which are covered with longitudinal muscles. The consistence of the fulcral plate is nearly cartilaginous (compare **74**, p. 43, Taf. v. fig. 7). The pointed and closed distal end of the palpon is provided with a corona of large cnidocysts and tasting cells. The dilated and obliquely truncated proximal end is apposed by a broad elliptical articular face to the facette of the siphosome described above, but connected with the latter by a very small pedicle only. The palpons, therefore, are very easily detached from the siphosome, and a small pore only in the middle of each articular facette indicates the place of the narrow canal which connected the wide cavities of the trunk and of the palpon (Pl. XX. figs. 9–13, *cq*).