

The family Salacidæ is an interesting group intermediate between two very dissimilar families of Cystonectæ, the macrostelioid Rhizophysidæ (XXI.) and the brachystelioid Physalidæ (XXIV.). It agrees with the former in the long tubular stem and the long naked internodes between the ordinate cormidia, and further in the peculiar structure of the pneumatophore, possessing hypocystic villi; on the other hand, it agrees with the Physalidæ (Pl. XXVI.) in the polygastric structure of the cormidia and the large size of the float, and with *Physalia* especially in the structure of the siphons and the simple tentacles, bearing a series of reniform cnidonodes.

The remarkable species which represents this connecting family is figured in Pl. XXV. as *Salacia polygastrica*; it was taken by the Challenger in the Tropical Atlantic (Station 338), from a depth of 1990 fathoms. The single specimen examined was so well preserved that it was possible by staining and dissecting it to recognise the essential structure of all the different organs. The morphological relation which the polygastric cormidia of Salacidæ bear to the closely allied monogastric cormidia of Rhizophysidæ is very similar to that which, among the Physonectæ, the Apolemidæ bear to the Agalmidæ. An *Apolemia* which has lost its nectophores and bracts would be very similar to a *Salacia*. The peculiar structure of the gonodendra, however, in this latter, and the structure of the large float, with eight radial bunches of hypocystic villi, leaves no doubt that they are most closely allied to the Rhizophysidæ.

Genus 72. *Salacia*,¹ Haeckel, 1888.

Salacia, Hkl., System der Siphonophoren, p. 45.

Definition.—Salacidæ with ordinate cormidia, each of which is composed of several siphons and monostylic gonodendra. The single tentacle, which arises from the base of each siphon, is a long simple tube, beset with a series of reniform cnidocysts.

The genus *Salacia* was established by Linné in 1746 for that very large Cystonect which was called *Physalia* by Lamarck in 1816 (compare 1, p. 158; 79, p. 24). Since the latter name is generally accepted, and the former (although seventy years older) entirely forgotten, I employ it for this new genus, instead of giving a new name. The characters of the genus *Salacia*, as the only known type of Salacidæ, are the same as described above for that family. As a peculiar character of the genus may be pointed out the shape of the tentacles, which agree with those of *Physalia*. The species described in the sequel (Pl. XXV.) was discovered by the Challenger in the depths of the Tropical Atlantic (Station 338). Another species of the same genus seems to be the (incompletely known) North Atlantic form, which Fewkes described in 1886 as *Rhizophysa uvaria* (45, part xii. p. 967, pl. x. fig. 6).

¹ *Salacia*, name of a sea-goddess, wife of Okeanos.