

of the first nectophore. Along its dorsal side runs the nectocalycine duct or pedicular canal (*cp*), which opens at the apex into the top of the stem.

Hydræcial Canal.—Whilst the dorsal half of the basal nectophore is occupied by the slender, cylindrical, slightly curved nectosac, its ventral half is occupied by the hydræcial canal (*nf*). This is an open groove in the greater part of its length, limited by two ventro-lateral wings of the umbrella; but in the middle part (opposite to the superior third of the nectosac) the two wings have grown together and form a complete canal (figs. 4, 5 *ub*), and in the inferior third the broader left wing (*nl*) overlaps the smaller right wing (*nx*). The five denticulate edges of the second nectophore and the five basal teeth around the mouth correspond to those of the first.

Siphosome (fig. 1, *a*).—The common stem of the body is a very long and slender tubule in the expanded state, four to six times as long as the nectophores. It is enclosed in the hydræcial canal of the basal nectophore, is attached at the apex to the top of the hydræcium of the apical nectophore, and is here directly prolonged into the somatocyst of the latter (*cs*). Whilst a great part of the siphosome can be retracted into the hydræcial canal when contracted perfectly, it can be widely prominent by its lower aperture when expanded.

Cormidia.—The eudoxomes, which beset the whole stem at regular intervals (about equal to their lengths) are very numerous, in large specimens sixty to ninety, or more (fig. 1). They have a spathiform bract, which is prolonged above its insertion upwards into a cowl (Pl. XXXIV. figs. 9, 11). This cowl is open at the ventral side, and contains a spindle-shaped phyllocyst (*cs*), which encloses in its apex an oleocyst (*co*). The ventral side of the bract is opened by a deep fissure, and its base obliquely bevelled, and armed with four short triangular teeth; the two dorsal teeth are larger than the two ventral.

The cavity of the bract encloses a cylindrical siphon with a long tentacle, and besides a large special nectophore, and one or two, rarely three, gonophores. These are brought to maturity after the eudoxome has been detached from the stem. It then swims freely about as *Ersæa compressa* (compare the description of this genus, pp. 122–124, and Pl. XXXIV.).

Subfamily ABYLIDÆ.

Genus 29. *Abyla*,¹ Quoy et Gaimard, 1827.

Abyla, Quoy et Gaimard, Ann. d. Sci. Nat. (Zool.), t. x.

Definition.—Diphyidæ with two angular, pyramidal or prismatic nectophores of different size and form. The basal nectophore is three-sided-pyramidal, asymmetrical, and much larger than the symmetrical apical nectophore. Bracts six-sided-prismatic, with

¹ *Abyla* = Αβύλαν, the southern column of Hercules, opposite to Calpe, Strait of Gibraltar.