

Bosc with eight tentacula (*Pelagia denticulata*, Péron), a third species which resembles the *Medusa hysocella*, and which Vandelli found at the mouth of the Tagus. It is known by its brownish-yellow colour, and by its tentacula, which are longer than the body. Several of these sea-nettles were four inches in diameter: their reflection was almost metallic: their changeable colours of violet and purple formed an agreeable contrast with the azure tint of the ocean.

In the midst of these medusas M. Bonpland observed bundles of *Dagysa notata*, a mollusca of a singular construction, which Sir Joseph Banks first discovered. These are small gelatinous bags, transparent, cylindrical, sometimes polygonal, thirteen lines long and two or three in diameter. These bags are open at both ends. In one of these openings, we observed a hyaline bladder, marked with a yellow spot. The cylinders lie longitudinally, one against another, like the cells of a bee-hive, and form chaplets from six to eight inches in length. I tried the galvanic electricity on these mollusca, but it produced no contraction. It appears that the genus *dagysa*, formed at the time of Cook's first voyage, belongs to the salpas (biphores of Bruguière), to which M. Cuvier joins the *Thalia* of Brown, and the *Tethys vagina* of Tilesius. The salpas journey also by groups, joining in chaplets, as we have observed of the *dagysa*.

On the morning of the 13th of June, in $34^{\circ} 33'$ latitude, we saw large masses of this last mollusca in its passage, the sea being perfectly calm. We observed during the night, that, of three species of medusas which we collected, none yielded any light but at the moment of a very slight shock. This property does not belong exclusively to the *Medusa noctiluca*, which Forskæl has described in his *Fauna Ægyptiaca*, and which Gmelin has applied to the *Medusa pelagica* of Lœfling, notwithstanding its red tentacula, and the brownish tuberosities of its body. If we place a very irritable medusa on a pewter plate, and strike against the plate with any sort of metal, the slight vibrations of the plate are sufficient to make this animal emit light. Sometimes, in galvanising the medusa, the phosphorescence appears at the moment that the chain closes, though the excitors are not in immediate contact with the organs of the animal. The fingers with