

Sars, again, speaks of them as partly confirmatory of his own, when, of course, the earlier observation was the original one, and the later ones should be considered as confirmations. The budding of the polypoid state of Strobila had been known to Dalyell for years before it had even been noticed by Sars. Dalyell already knew, in 1836, what Sars was still ignorant of in 1841, and, what seems hardly to be generally known even now, though it is certainly true, that the base of the Strobila resumes the form of the original Scyphistoma after the Strobila has dissolved itself into free Ephyrae.

But all these so-called "Hydra tuba" are not one and the same animal. They are the early stages of development of the different kinds of covered-eyed Medusæ which occur on the coast of Scotland, and the development of which presents similar phases. However, while Dalyell confounds in this manner the progeny of all the Steganophthalmus of the vicinity of Edinburgh, his very mistake shows the more plainly how similar are the earlier stages of development of these different species of Medusæ.

It is much to be regretted, that the facts so carefully and patiently traced by Sir John Dalyell, for so many successive years, should not have earlier attracted the general attention of the investigators of Acalephs; for his work contains satisfactory information upon many points, which were afterwards discussed as if no observations had yet been made respecting them. Not less is it to be regretted, that Sir John Dalyell was not more fully acquainted with the investigations of Sars and of von Siebold. Had he known their import, his own results would have been much sooner incorporated into the history of these animals, while they would also have acquired more precision and directness in his own mind. As it happened, the highly important labors of Dalyell have remained almost unnoticed until recently, and have failed to exercise the influence they might have had upon the progress of science.

Various facts bearing upon the phenomena of alternate generations had been observed among Hydroids by Ehrenberg,¹ Loven,² Nordmann,³ VanBeneden,⁴ and

¹ EHRENBURG (C. G.), Die Korallenthiere des rothen Meeres physiologisch untersucht und systematisch verzeichnet, Berlin, 1834, 4to.

² LOVEN (S. L.), Beitrag zur Kenntniss der Gattung Campanularia und Syncoryne, Wiegmann's Arch. 1837, vol. 1, p. 249.

³ NORDMANN (AL. V.), Sur les changements que l'âge apporte dans la manière d'être des Campanulaires; Comptes-Rendus de l'Acad. des Sc. Paris,

1839, vol. 9, p. 704. This account is too short to be at all satisfactory.

⁴ VANBENEDEN (P. F.), Mémoire sur les Campanulaires de la côte d'Ostende, considérées sous le rapport physiologique, embryogénique et zoologique; Ann. Sc. Nat. 2e sér. 1843, vol. 20, p. 350. et Mém. Ac. Brux. 1843, vol. 17, 4to. fig.—Mémoire sur l'embryogénie des Tubulaires, etc. Mém. Acad. Brux. 1844, 4to. fig.