the chymiferous tubes terminate in different ways in different genera; anastomozing in a more or less direct manner with one another around the actinostome. Besides the vertical chymiferous tubes which follow the course of the rows of flappers, there are two other vertical chymiferous tubes, presenting various degrees of complication in different genera. These two tubes are placed opposite to one another, in the same direction as the main branches of the whole system. All Ctenophoræ have a decided tendency to a bilateral symmetry, their body being more or less compressed. In some the outline is spheroidal, in others more cylindrical, while in others still, the spherosome expands on the actinal side of the body into wing-like appendages.

The most prominent peculiarities of the Ctenophoræ as an order consist, therefore, in the complication of their system of chymiferous tubes, in the presence of locomotive flappers on the surface, and in a tendency to a bilateral symmetry, resulting from the inequality of their spheromeres.

All these peculiarities show distinctly that the Ctenophoræ are superior to the Discophoræ; for in the latter the chymiferous tubes simply radiate from the main cavity towards the periphery, and, when branching, divide in one and the same plane. Moreover, Discophoræ have no rows of locomotive flappers, and move only by the contraction of their spherosome, which assumes the form of a hemispheric disk, spreading uniformly in every direction, without exhibiting the slightest tendency to bilateral symmetry. It is true that in Discophoræ the actinostome is apparently more complicated than in Ctenophoræ, because it is surrounded by long appendages hanging below the main cavity; but, notwithstanding this seeming superiority of development, it will be shown hereafter that the actinostome of the Ctenophoræ is in reality more highly organized than that of the Discophoræ, although the bulk of its appendages in the latter gives it a greater prominence. It is true also that in a large number of Discophoræ the margin of the disk is provided with numerous tentacles, but these tentacles are only peripheric diverticles of the chymiferous tubes, and in no way constitute a higher complication of that system than the vertical branches of the chymiferous tubes of the Ctenophoræ with their locomotive flappers. It is true also that the Discophoræ have distinct sexes, their ovaries and spermaries forming large bunches, in separate cavities, while the Ctenophoræ are hermaphrodites; but the special arrangement of the ovaries and spermaries in the latter, placed as they are on opposite sides of the vertical branches of the chymiferous tubes, contributes to render the complication of the structure of each individual more apparent in Ctenophoræ than in Discophoræ. It is true also that the Discophoræ have eight, and sometimes twelve or even more distinct eyes at the end of their radiating chymiferous tubes, while in Ctenophoræ there is a single eye at the abactinal pole; but then that single eye