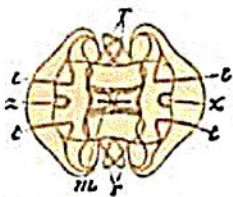


a living state; for it is out of the question to examine their forms out of the water, as all parts then collapse, fall together, break to pieces, or dissolve into a shapeless mass. And, although I acknowledge the great interest of the descriptions published by travelling naturalists, making us acquainted with the extensive diversity of types of these remarkable animals all over the world, satisfactory illustrations cannot be expected from any quarters, save those where able observers have resided for a longer time. The accounts of the generic and specific characters of most Medusæ must therefore be considered as provisional, so long as they are not revised under favorable circumstances.

Viewed from the abactinal side, with the lobes contracted, *Bolina* appears very much like *Pleurobrachia*, assuming then the form of a slightly compressed sphere (*Fig. 90*); and were it not for the fact that the circumscribed area runs in the longer diameter, while it is transverse to it in *Pleurobrachia* (Pl. II^a *Fig. 20*), the identity would be almost perfect. Seen from the actinal side, however (*Fig. 91*), even when the lobes are contracted, the difference from *Pleurobrachia* (Pl. II^a *Fig. 21*) is already marked,

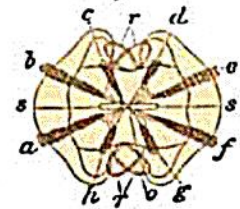
Fig. 91.

BOLINA ALATA, Ag.
(Seen from below.)

m Mouth. — *rr* Auricles. — *ttt* Prolongation of the long vertical chymiferous tubes. — *z* Anastomosis of these tubes.

owing to the circumstance that the vertical rows of locomotive flappers do not extend uniformly from one extremity of the animal to the other, the two ambulacra of the anterior and posterior lobes being much longer than those of the sides, which terminate at about half the height of the body.

Viewed from the abactinal side with slightly opened lobes, the difference between the longitudinal and the transverse diameter is already more marked; but the four lateral lobes, or auricles, appear as appendages to the anterior and posterior lobes. However, as the larger lobes expand more and more, the small lateral lobes appear detached from them, and their real connection with the sides of the main body begins to be noticeable; and the greater length of the anterior and posterior ambulacra and the shortness of the lateral ones are quite apparent. In proportion as the anterior and posterior lobes are more and more stretched forward and backward, their edges assume a more pointed form, similar to the horns of a crescent, or rather to the blade of a tomahawk, and the whole body may be compared to two tomahawks in miniature, placed head to head in opposite symmetrical directions, the four short lateral appendages looking like two small sticks projecting like short handles through the eyes of the two heads for an equal length on both sides. Seen from the actinal side in the same development of all parts, the general outlines do not differ

Fig. 90.

BOLINA ALATA, Ag.
(Seen from above.)

o Central black speck (eye-speck). — *abef* Long rows of locomotive flappers. — *cdgh* Short rows of locomotive flappers. — *rr* Auricles. — *ss* Circumscribed area of the abactinal end of the body.