DISCOPHORÆ.

shape of the veil is very peculiar, not so much in the lateral ovate outlines as in the disposition of its upper and lower surfaces; the whole thickness is gradually depressed from the edge to the centre (Fig. 9 i^8): but the hollow is deepest near the base. In a foreshortened view (Fig. 4 A), especially when the veil is turned inward toward the proboscis, this hollow is very marked. The extent of the veil is about half the length of the oculiferous lobes. The proboscis has lost its rounded corners, which now appear as if cut straight across (Fig. 4 a^1), the meaning of which will be seen in the next phase. Already the lips (a) have become thin and transparent, approximating the trumpet-mouth form which they soon after adopt. The four columnar supports or buttresses (a^3), so characteristic in the proboscis of the adult (Pl. VII. Fig. 5), are here already very marked; they stand opposite four of the eyes, and extend their several bases as far as the borders (Pl. XI^h, Fig. 4 b^1) of the digestive cavity.

In the last phase we pointed out the completion of the circular canal; and now we find already the radiating canals are branching. The process by which this is done is very simple. The inner walls of the upper and lower floors of the disk separate along the line intended for the course of the canal, and thus a channel is formed. At k^1 Fig. 4 we have this process going on: the upper and lower walls of this projection are separated on the side next the periphery, and a more direct passage to the canal of the oculiferous lobes is made, whilst an isolated column (k^2) is left, around which the chymiferous fluid circulates. In this way the circular canal (Fig. 2 c1) was formed in the previous stage. In order to make this process clearer to the reader, we refer for a moment to a transverse section of the canals of an older stage (Fig. 13); here it will be evident, that, simply by the separation of the two walls at k, the two adjacent canals c and ewill merge into each other; and this is the way that all the canals are formed in succeeding ages of the ephyra. The breadth of the eight canals (Fig. 4 $c^2 c^3$) which lead to the eyes is remarkable; and their nearly equilateral triangular outline contrasts strongly with the straight, parallel sides of the eight simple canals (c) which go to the margin. We have an instance here, in an incipient state, of the branching (e1) of a normally simple, straight canal, such as may be seen in an adult specimen (Pl. VII. Fig. 5 d). The sexual organs (Pl. XIb. Fig. 4 g) show signs of advancement merely by the increase in the number and length of the digitate appendages.

The margin of the disk has begun to be complicated. In the first place, the separation of the outer and inner walls at this point, as observed in the previous phase (Fig. 2 $i^2 i^4$), has resulted in the formation of two marginal lobules (Fig. 3 i^2), one on each side of the single tentacle (i^3). The exact relation of these appendages will be better understood by referring to their adult state (Pl. VII. Figs. 2, 3, 4 b).