## DISCOPHOR.E.

are commonly called the fringes of the mouth.<sup>4</sup> Plate IV. represents the lower surface, fully expanded; yet, to avoid confusion, the parts that are visible in the natural state of this animal are not all reproduced, but only one bunch, or one set of each kind, the others being omitted. The parts preserved are so selected as to give an accurate idea of the respective position of all the different organs, and some are laid out in a manner which may explain their structure more fully than the complete profile figure of Plate III. In the first place, the quadrangular opening in the centre, or what is commonly called the mouth, would not be visible at all, had the four masses of curtain-like folds, which hang from its outer edge, been all preserved, and on that account only one and one half of another are represented; but even these are not shown foreshortened and folded, as they should be when the animal is turned mouth downward; they are, on the contrary, flattened out, so as to show the furrows which extend along the middle of each, from the corners of the so-called mouth to their lower edge. Owing to this artificial position, several parts which hang from the lower surface of the disk are concealed; but identical parts are exhibited in other directions, where the other lobes of the mouth are cut away. Of the ovarian bunches, only one is represented, and it will easily be noticed that it occupies the space between two angles of the mouth, so that the four bunches of mouth fringes and the four bunches of ovaries alternate upon eight diverging rays, extending from the centre of the disk to its margin; but, as Pl. III. clearly shows, the mouth fringes hang lower down than the ovarian bunches. Again, of the eight bunches of threads one only is represented in Pl. IV. Fig. 1, and the others are either entirely omitted, or their base of attachment only indicated; but from the position which they occupy, it is at once plain that each bunch alternates with the eight spaces intervening alternately between a bunch of mouth fringes, and an ovarian bunch; so that the four mouth fringes, the four ovarian bunches, and the eight bunches of threads, occupy sixteen different imaginary rays, extending from the centre to the periphery of the disk. It is important that the reader should make himself familiar with this remarkable arrangement before proceeding further, for it constitutes one of the essential features in the symmetry of this animal.

<sup>1</sup> As the introduction of letters or figures to designate the different parts of the plate would have injured its appearance, if they had been sufficiently numerous to mark them all, I have omitted them

altogether; but I trust the attentive reader will casily connect the description and the plates in his mind, and thus supply the reference.