

if my supposition that *Nausithœe* is a young *Pelagia* is correct, the middle lobe of the genital pouches (*b b*), of my *Fig. 2*, are not yet developed.

I have ventured to introduce here these remarks, which may seem irrelevant, in consequence of the deep conviction which has gradually grown up in my mind, that there is a uniformity of plan among *Acalephs* far more strongly impressed upon all their various types than could be inferred from the manner in which they have been described, or from the manner in which they are represented. I venture to make this case a test of the validity of this conviction, even though I have, in so doing, to question the accuracy of so sagacious an observer as *Gegenbaur*.

SECTION II.

THE GENERA OF PELAGIDÆ.

Thus far the genera admitted among the *Pelagidæ* have been distinguished by the number of their tentacles, *Pelagia* proper containing those with eight tentacles, *Dodecabostrycha* those with twelve, *Heccadecabostrycha* those with eighteen, and *Polybostrycha* those with twenty-four or more tentacles. As characterized by *Péron* and *LeSueur*, the genus *Chrysaora* is very indefinite, as he simply assigns to it a peduncle perforated in the centre, entirely distinct arms, which do not branch, and a large central cavity. *Eschscholtz* has characterized it more precisely, by showing its affinity with *Pelagia*, as founded upon the pouch-like appendages of the main cavity and the insertion of the tentacles, which are more numerous. On this last account, however, *Eschscholtz*, who considers the number of tentacles as of trifling importance, is inclined to regard *Chrysaora* as hardly generically distinct from *Pelagia*; but if, instead of considering only the number of these appendages, we take into account their connection with the lobes of the margin, it will be at once apparent, not only that *Chrysaora*, as defined by *Eschscholtz* in imitation of *Péron* and *LeSueur*, is a distinct genus, but that it embraces, like *Pelagia*, several distinct generic types.

PELAGIA proper embraces all those species thus far referred to the genus, which, like *Pelagia noctiluca*, *cyanella*, and *panopyra*, have sixteen equally developed pouches, each of which branches off into two distinct sacs near the margin, and are there so combined that the marginal lobes embrace one sac of two adjoining pouches, and that in the indentations dividing these lobes there are, alternately, one eye and one tentacle, the whole margin being divided into sixteen lobes, with