

long tentacles, from the actinal side of which rises a long, tentaculated proboscis. The medusæ-buds arise upon the floor between the outer tentacles and the base of the proboscis; they may become free medusæ, or remain sessile and wither. The genera differ from one another, chiefly by the form and arrangement of the tentacles of the proboscis and the structure of the medusæ-buds. All the Tubularidæ have the same form, and constitute a very natural family.

SECTION II.

HYBOCODON PROLIFER AG.

Proles hydroidea. Adult.—We have never found *Hybocodon* elsewhere than in the purest sea-water, in clear pools at low-water level. Notwithstanding frequent explorations, it has not been discovered along our rocky shores where the tide dashes backward and forward, and on this account we are inclined to believe that it is, properly, a deep-water animal. The locality from which we are in the habit of collecting it, is a ledge of rocks at Nahant, lying at a short distance from the shore, and covered by ordinary tides; and it is only where the pools are protected by a great roof of rocks that this Hydroid flourishes. It is easily detected by its deep, orange-red color, and by its size, which is much greater than that of any other littoral Tubularians. In fact, the only Tubularian with which it may be compared, in size, is *Thamnocnidia spectabilis* (Pl. XXII. *Fig. 16*), and that is a brackish-water animal. It is seldom that more than three or four individuals are found together, and we have not been able to ascertain whether they are ever united by a common basis, as, from their position, the stems, to be secured, had, in every case, to be cut away from the rocks on which they rested, without any chance of tracing their relations to each other. However, it does not appear that this Hydroid has the habit of branching so intricately as the genera *Tubularia*, *Thamnocnidia*, and *Parypha*. The stem, which averages two inches in length (Pl. XXV. *Fig. 1, a*), is not thicker, at its base, than a common sewing needle, but from this point it gradually enlarges toward the head, at the base of which it has a diameter of one sixteenth of an inch. There is but one head on each stem, to which it is joined by a constricted portion just below the globose terminal expansion (*Fig. 2, b*). At times, the base of the head and the end of the stem are very much distended (*Fig. 3*), and the constriction is totally obliterated, so that it is impossible to tell where the stem terminates and the head begins. This is a condition which we have noticed only toward the end