

(*p*) more sharply conical, and the tentacles (*te*) at least three times as long as the transverse diameter of the base of the head, and slightly swollen at the tips. In this condition it escapes from the parent, and after creeping about for a while, settles down upon its stem, expands its tentacles (*Fig. 15, t*) and its hitherto unseen mouth (*t'*), and five, six, or seven buccal tentacles (*t''*). The number of discal tentacles, at the birth of the young hydroid, varies from seven or eight to eleven. At first, they are rather crooked and rough (*Fig. 15, t*), but very soon they assume the smooth contour of the adult, but retain their four-sided shape, as described in the young of *Parypha* (p. 254). In regard to the walls of the body and the tentacles, the details of the mode of escape from the parent, and the appearance of the last portion of the germ-basis, we may refer to *Parypha crocea*. There is a wide difference between the degree of development to which the several embryos, in one and the same parent, have arrived; one of them (*Fig. 14, st*) may be just escaping from the medusoid, whilst another is a mere irregular, spherical mass (*c'*), without any traces of organs, and yet there still remains, clinging to the proboscis, enough of the germ-basis (*c*) to form a third individual.

Proles medusoides.—We have already pointed out, on the preceding page, the identity in the mode of development of the earliest stages of the medusoids of *Parypha* and *Thamnocnidia*, and, therefore, need not repeat these descriptions here. After the inner wall (Pl. XXII. *Fig. 2, b b'*) has become deeply cup-shaped, there arises a difference between these two genera, in their mode of growth. In *Parypha* the proboscis (Pl. XXIII. *Fig. 6, d*) arises from the base of the cup, before the edge of the latter has reached the extreme of the bud; whereas, in *Thamnocnidia*, the edge of the cup, having followed the inner surface of the exterior wall (Pl. XXII. *Fig. 3, a*), and finally arching over and uniting its constricting lip, has formed a continuous inner wall (*b*), as soon as the proboscis begins to rise in the guise of a broad, low papilla (*d*). In this way the germ-basis (*c*) is withdrawn from contact with the outer wall (*a*) and shut up within the interior wall (*b*) and its continuity, the single transverse wall (*d*) of the proboscis. Soon after this the medusoid begins to broaden (*Figs. 4 and 4^a*), and assumes a globular shape, and the proboscis (*d*) gradually pushes its way into the mass of the germ-basis (*c*), while the latter, at the same rate, assumes a deeper and deeper concavo-convex form, and becomes a cap to the former. Up to this time, the wall of the proboscis (*d*) has maintained a pretty uniform thickness, about equal to that of the inner wall (*b*); but subsequently it shows considerable variation in this respect, probably owing to the different degrees of contraction in which it may be at various times. Sometimes the wall (*Fig. 5, d*) swells till its cavity (*c*) is nearly obliterated, and soon, again, it extends its peripheric dimensions at the expense of