

ally formed the four corners (*b f*) become elongated, and by degrees, are transformed into tentacles, (*c.*) These

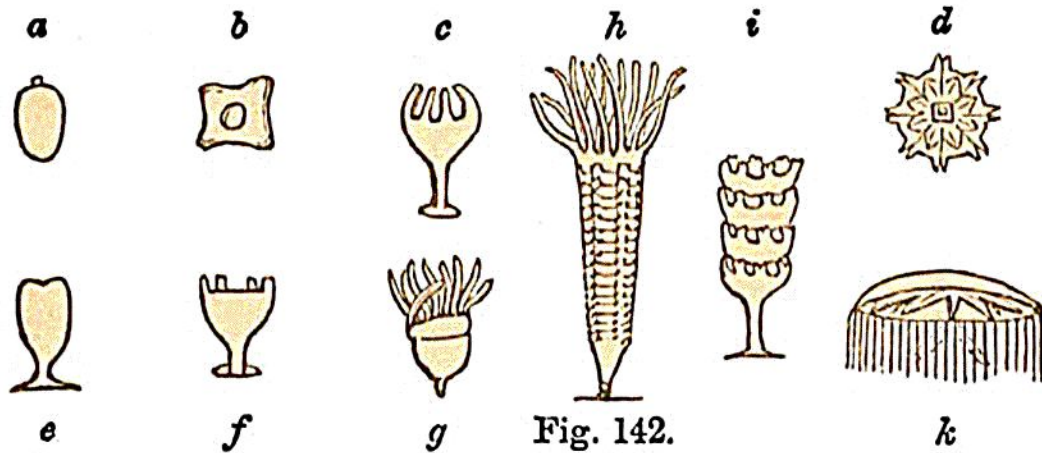


Fig. 142.

tentacles rapidly multiply, until the whole of the upper margin is covered with them, (*g.*) Then transverse wrinkles are seen on the body, at regular distances, appearing first above and extending downwards. These wrinkles, which are at first very slight, grow deeper and deeper, and, at the same time, the edge of each segment begins to be serrated, so that the animal presents the appearance of a pine cone, surmounted by a tuft of tentacles, (*h*;) whence the name of Strobila, which was originally given to it, before it was known to be only a transient state of the jelly-fish. The separation constantly goes on, until at last the divisions are united by only a very slender axis, and resemble a pile of cups placed within each other, (*i.*) The divisions are now ready for separation; the upper ring first disengages itself, and then the others in succession.\* Each segment (*d*) then continues its development by itself, until it becomes a complete Medusa, (*k*;) while, according to recent researches, the basis or stalk remains and produces a new colony.

347. It is thus, by a series of metamorphoses, that the little animal which, on leaving the egg, has the form of the

\* These free segments have been described as peculiar animals, under the name of *Ephyra*.