CHAP. II.]

definitely shaped valves, slightly cupped above, and marked beneath with impressions for the insertion of muscles. The anal opening is on a short plated interradial tube. The mouth opens into a short slightly constricted esophagus, which is succeeded by a dilatation surrounded by brown glandular ridges; the intestine is very short, and contracts rapidly to a small diameter. Round the esophagus a somewhat ill-defined vascular ring, which may possibly be continuous with the body-cavity, gives off opposite each of the oral plates a group of four tubular tentacles. The ovaries are very long, extending nearly the whole length of the first two or three pairs of pinnules on

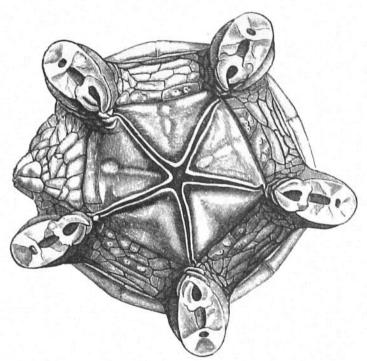


Fig. 26.—Disk of Hyocrinus Bethellianus. Eight times the natural size.

each arm. The assemblage of characters connected with the disk and soft parts shows a considerable resemblance between *Hyocrinus* and *Rhizocrinus*. My strong impression is that the mode of nutrition of the Cyathocrinidæ, and consequently the structure and arrangement of their disk, was essentially different from that of all the yet known living forms; and I think it is probable that when we have an opportunity of studying the structure of *Hyocrinus* minutely, we shall find that its very