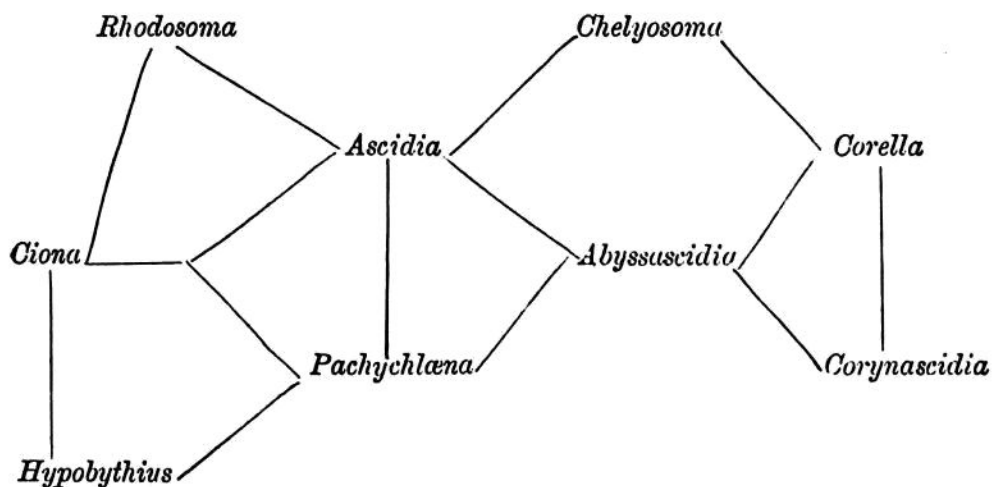


and *Pachychlæna* occupy the centre, may be placed *Ciona*, leading towards the Clavelinidæ, while two genera, *Corella* and *Corynascidia*, occupy the opposite end. *Abyssascidia* comes in between *Ascidia* and *Corella*, while the two somewhat aberrant forms, *Rhodosoma* and *Chelyosoma*, must be considered as allied, the former to *Ascidia* and *Ciona*, and the latter to *Ascidia* and *Corella*, but both having marked peculiarities of their own, which prevent their being placed in the direct line between their allies. The remaining form, *Hypobythius*, is in some respects (*e.g.*, the structure of the branchial sac) the most abnormal of all. It is allied to *Ciona*, and has also affinities with *Ascidia* or *Pachychlæna*, but cannot be placed in a direct line between them. These relationships may be shown in a schematic form thus :—



This scheme might be divided by two vertical lines, so as to separate three groups,—a central, containing *Ascidia* and *Pachychlæna*, and two lateral, the one containing *Corella*, *Corynascidia*, *Chelyosoma*, and *Abyssascidia*; and the other the three remaining genera, *Ciona* and the two abnormal forms *Rhodosoma* and *Hypobythius*.

The table immediately following shows how these nine genera may be distinguished by a few of their more important characters. It seems impossible, however, to arrange them satisfactorily in sub-families. For example, the first division in this table, founded on the condition of the dorsal lamina, throws *Ciona* in contact with *Corella*, and separates it from the much more nearly allied *Hypobythius*. In other respects, however, this table is not an unnatural arrangement; it brings *Abyssascidia*, *Corynascidia*, and *Corella* into the same section, and puts *Pachychlæna* and *Ascidia* into close contact.