

Genus 57. *Stephanospira*,¹ Gegenbaur, 1859.

Stephanospira, Gegenbaur, Neue Beiträge, &c., 10, p. 67, figs. 53-58.

Definition.—Discolabidæ with a multiserial nectosome, composed of several rows of nectophores spirally arranged. (Siphosome with a single corona of palpons.)

The genus *Stephanospira* was established in 1859 by Gegenbaur for a Physophorid of unknown origin, of which he could only examine a single incomplete specimen, preserved in alcohol; the nectophores as well as the siphons and palpons were detached and lost; the trunk only was preserved, with the pneumatophore at the apex and the corona of gonodendra in the periphery of the siphosome. It is, therefore, easy to explain that the description of Gegenbaur contained some errors, and that he supposed it to be a widely aberrant type of Physophoridæ. Sars has since corrected those errors, and made it probable that *Stephanospira* may be only a mutilated specimen of *Physophora* (27, Heft iii. p. 42). The same opinion is supported by Claus (74, p. 16, &c.). Indeed, it may be that this opinion is right, and in any case *Stephanospira* belongs to our family Discolabidæ. But the incomplete state of the single specimen examined, which it is impossible to identify, and mainly the entire absence of nectophores, leaves open the question, whether these were arranged originally in two opposite, four cruciate, or numerous spiral rows. Having recently seen an excellent picture by Mr. Wild, taken from life, representing an Atlantic *Physophora*, the conical nectosome of which is similar to that of *Forskalia* and composed of numerous nectophores spirally arranged, I retain for this form the name *Stephanospira*. I shall publish the description and figures of this *Stephanospira corona* in my Morphology of the Siphonophoræ. In form the vesicular spiral trunk and the distinctly ordinate monoclinic pairs of gonodendra are similar to those of *Stephanospira insignis*, Gegenbaur.

Family XVII. ANTHOPHYSIDÆ, Brandt, 1835.

Anthophysidæ, Brandt, 1835, Prodröm, &c., 25, p. 35.

Athorybidæ, Huxley, 1859, 9, pp. 71, 85.

Definition.—Physonectæ polygastricæ, with a short vesicular stem of the siphosome, bearing numerous siphons and palpons, each siphon provided with a branched tentacle. Nectosome without nectophores, but with a corona of bracts. Pneumatophore with radial pouches.

The family Anthophysidæ of Brandt (1835), identical with the Athorybidæ of Huxley (1859), differs from all the other Physonectæ polygastricæ in the absence of nectophores, which are replaced by a corona of bracts. It agrees in this striking

¹ *Stephanospira* = Spiral corona, σπείρανος, σπείρα.