

and growing over sand grains and other foreign bodies so that they become a part of the investing mass. In some species of *Psammaphidium* the colony looks simply like a mass of sand grains.

Returning now to the point G. at the origin of the Polyclinidæ, we find that the second line of descent leads first of all to the main axis of the Distomidæ; and here, just as in the case of the early Polyclinidæ, a series of changes must have taken place, resulting in the formation of large colonies in which the Ascidiozooids were more or less completely embedded in a common investing mass formed by the fusion of their tests. The union of the atrial apertures to form common cloacal cavities did not take place apparently so soon or so completely as in the case of the Polyclinidæ, and in many of the Distomidæ the atrial apertures of the Ascidiozooids are found opening independently on the exterior of the colony.

The line leading from G. to the base of the Distomidæ gives off a short side branch upon which *Diazona* is found. This remarkable form,¹ although not upon the main axis, is probably the nearest genus now known to the ancestral form at G. which gave rise to most of the Compound Ascidiæ. *Diazona* has the Ascidiozooids still partially independent, their posterior ends only being embedded in the common investing mass. This form diverged from the main line just before the suppression of the internal longitudinal bars took place, as they are present in *Diazona* although absent in *Chondrostachys*,² the next genus which left the main axis.

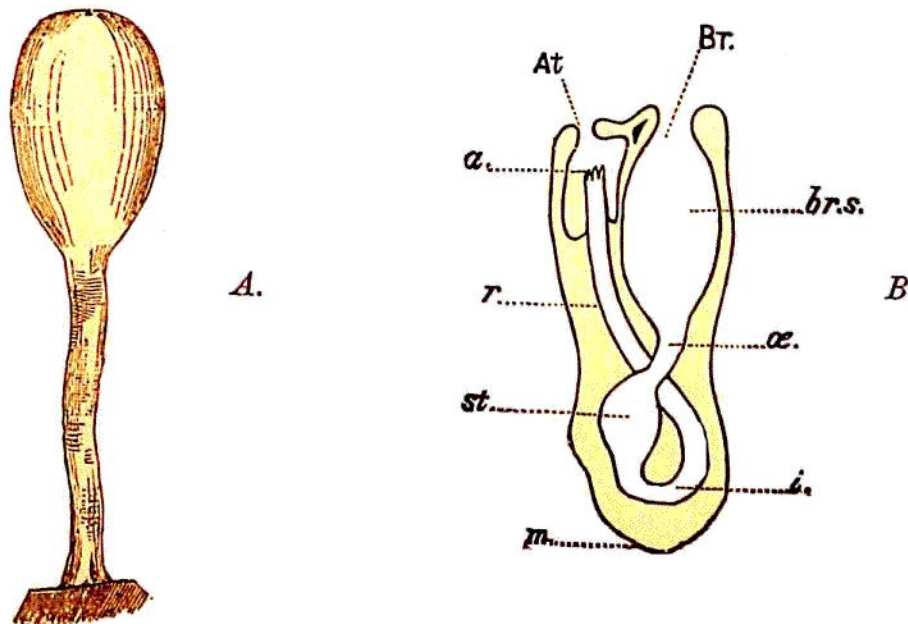


FIG. 22.—Diagrams of *Colella* in the Distomidæ.
A. shows the pedunculated colony, nat. size. B. shows one of the Ascidiozooids magnified.

Farther along a side branch is found which has given rise to *Oxycorynia*, *Distaplia*,

¹ See Savigny, Mémoires, pp. 85 and 175; Forbes and Goodsir, *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edin.*, vol. xx. p. 307, 1851; and Della Valle, *Rend. d. R. Accad. d. Sci. Fis. Mat. Napoli*, Anno xxiii. p. 28, 1884.

² Macdonald, *Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.*, ser. 8, vol. i. p. 401, 1858.