

their way into the thin margin surrounding the opening in the tentacle, but terminate abruptly before they reach this point. The margin, therefore, merely consists of a lamella of connective substance, covered by two layers of epithelium passing into one another at the free edge.

On the œsophagus (fig. 4), the two œsophageal grooves at once strike the eye as deeply incised furrows, bounded by broad folds and running zig-zag, as secondary transverse folds project alternately left and right. The other longitudinal furrows, which run, ten in number, on either side between the œsophageal grooves, are less distinct. From the oral disk the œsophagus is separated by a thick lip-like swelling, divided into twenty-four parts corresponding to the number of the longitudinal furrows of the œsophagus.

The number of the pairs of septa amounts in all to sixty-four. Sixteen of these are of equal size and are inserted into the œsophagus; alternating with these we find sixteen other pairs only a little smaller, which end on the oral disk, but like the others are purely muscular septa. On the other hand the last thirty-two pairs of septa, which are equally distributed in the interspaces between the muscular septa, bear only the reproductive organs and are furnished merely with a very thin muscular layer. There is a very pronounced difference in size between the smallest muscular septa and the reproductive septa, such as I have already described in *Ophiodiscus*. In *Sicyonis* also the septa are merely thin-walled mesenteries for the reproductive organs, thick masses of which (testes) occupy the free margin of the fold; they only extend upwards to one-third the height of the animal, and are entirely wanting in the angle between the wall and the oral disk (fig. 9).

Fig. 9 shows the distribution of the muscles on the muscular septa. On the side of the longitudinal muscles a single cord radiates like a fan towards the œsophagus and the central parts of the oral disk; on the side of the transverse muscles the parietobasilar muscle extends half way up the wall, where it occasions the constriction already mentioned. In the perfect septa a small opening lies in the neighbourhood of the mouth. The muscular septa and genital septa are finally to be distinguished by the fact that the former only bear mesenteric filaments.

*Sicyonis crassa* has another character in common with *Ophiodiscus* besides the differentiation of the septa into reproductive and muscular, viz., the relation in which the number of the pairs of septa stands to the number of the tentacles.

In the majority of Actiniæ there are at least twice as many tentacles as there are pairs of septa, so that each intraseptal and each interseptal space has its own special tentacle. In *Sicyonis* and *Ophiodiscus* there is an equal number of pairs of septa and of tentacles; the thirty-two intraseptal spaces of the muscular septa only have their own special tentacles, whilst the other tentacles belong in common to the thirty-two intraseptal spaces of the reproductive septa and the sixty-four adjacent interseptal spaces. This also shows the rudimentary character of the reproductive septa, since they