

Genus 58. *Rhodophysa*,<sup>1</sup> Blainville, 1834.*Rhodophysa*, Blainville, Actinologie, p. 123 (*sensu mutato*).

*Definition*.—Anthophysidæ with a rudimentary nectosac at the distal end of the bracts. Cnidonodes of the tentacles simple, without involucre, with a naked cnidoband and a single terminal filament.

The genus *Rhodophysa* was constituted by Blainville (24) for the reception of the same three forms of Physonectæ which Eschscholtz had united five years before in his genus *Athorybia*. This latter name therefore has the right of priority. Retaining here the name *Rhodophysa*, I employ it for those interesting, hitherto undescribed, forms of Athorybidæ, which differ from the others in the possession of a small rudimentary nectosac at the distal end of the bracts. This structure is the same as is found in *Athoria* among the monogastric Athoridæ (p. 201, Pl. XXI. figs. 5–10), and in the similar Athorularvæ of some Physonectæ (p. 200). It is of great morphological interest, as a proof that the bracts in this case are reduced nectophores.

A single specimen of *Rhodophysa* was observed by me in the Indian Ocean during my voyage from Ceylon to Aden (between the Maldivé Islands and Socotra) in March 1882. It was in general very similar to the well-known Mediterranean *Athorybia rosacea*, being also of the same light rose-colour, but differed in two essential points. Each bract exhibited at the distal end a small rudiment of a nectosac, similar to that of *Athoria larvalis* (Pl. XXI. figs. 5–10). Further, the tentilla possessed a naked spiral cnidotænia, with a single terminal filament, similar to the tentilla of *Athoria* and *Forskalia* (Pl. X. fig. 23). Unfortunately the single specimen of this remarkable *Rhodophysa corona* was destroyed before I could make a representation of it. It requires further examination.

Genus 59. *Melophysa*,<sup>2</sup> Haeckel, 1888.*Melophysa*, Hkl., System der Siphonophoren, p. 42.

*Definition*.—Anthophysidæ with simple bracts, without nectosac. Cnidonodes of the tentacles simple, with an involucre and a single terminal filament.

The genus *Melophysa* comprises those Anthophysidæ which have the general structure of the typical *Athorybia*, but differ from it in the singular form of the tentilla, or the cnidal knobs of the tentacles. Each tentillum bears a simple spiral cnidotænia, the basal half of which is enveloped by an involucre, and at its distal end a simple terminal filament; it is therefore similar to the tentilla of *Stephanomia* (9, pl. vi. fig. 8). Respecting this difference, *Melophysa* exhibits a relation to *Athorybia* similar to that which *Stephanomia* bears to *Crystallodes*, or *Halistemma* to *Agalmopsis*.

<sup>1</sup> *Rhodophysa* = Rose-bladder, ῥόδον, φῦσα.<sup>2</sup> *Melophysa* = Melon-vesicle, μῆλον, φῦσα.