

the earlier stages of their growth, and the later development of those peculiarities which distinguish the Lobatæ as a sub-order. Indeed, the facts already ascertained respecting the embryonic growth of the Ctenophoræ seem to justify the inference, that while the Eurystomæ are the lowest, the Lobatæ are the highest, and the other sub-orders occupy an intermediate position between them; for the prominence of the anterior and posterior spheromeres over the lateral pairs and their lobe-like prolongation in the Lobatæ are characters not observed in the earliest stages of their development, and marking therefore a progress which, not being reached by the other sub-orders, assigns the highest position to the Lobatæ. Again, the amplitude of the coeliac cavity and of the chymiferous tubes in the very young Lobatæ coincides with the essential character of the Eurystomæ. So that, if the development of Cestum should not interfere, it would be natural to arrange the Ctenophoræ in the following order: Eurystomæ, Saccatæ, Tæniatæ, and Lobatæ.