

Holm subsequently [1895, 17:616; 1896, 18:406] added observations on *V. belemnitifforme* without, however, recurring to his description of the endosiphuncular structure of the Esthonian material of *Endoceras gladius*. He states, how-

ever, that the latter showed that structure "remarkably well developed and preserved" [*l. c.*, p.617] and that also in Swedish specimens of *V. belemnitifforme* (= *gladius*) the endosiphoblade could be observed.

The distinction apparent in our material between the narrow endosiphotube and the wider endosiphocoleon, which in apical direction becomes a compressed blade, has not been noticed in the European material and consequently Holm's term "endosiphoblade" comprised both the apical blade-like continuation of the endosiphocoleon and the thinner membranes which connect this and the ectosiphuncle.

5 Growth stages of shell

The description of the transverse and longitudinal sections through the endosiphuncular structures in their various stages of development enables us now to portray the processes which took

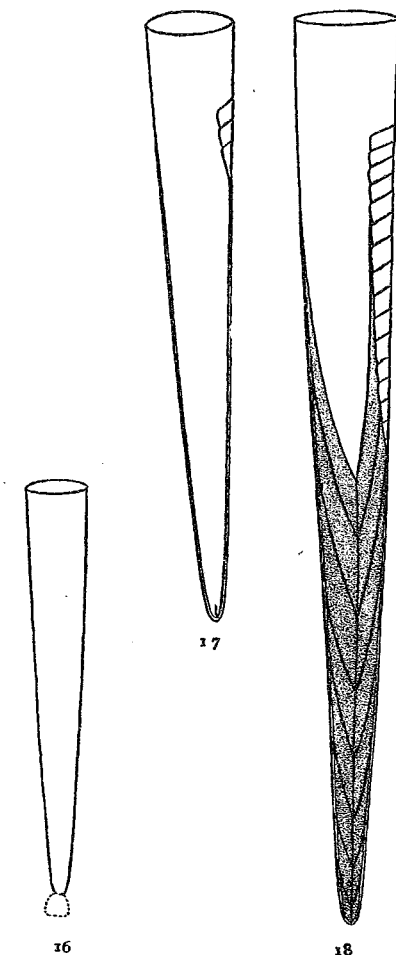


Fig. 16-18 Diagrammatic sections of early growth stages of shell of *Cameroceras brainerdi*

place within the siphuncle of *Cameroceras brainerdi* during the animal's advance from the apical cone to the living chamber at maturity.