

suggest the provisional abandonment of Kölliker's genus. *Wardella* has been established by Gray for *Xenia indivisa*, Sars. The statement that it exhibits an internal axis formed of spicules precludes its being placed in the family Xeniidæ.

Family V. ORGANIDÆ.

Organinæ, Danielssen, Norske Nordhavs-Exped. 1876-78, Zool. Alcyonida, p. 130.

Organidus, Danielssen, *loc. cit.*, p. 137.

In this genus the colony is deficient in cœnenchyma; the individual polyps are elongated and united together so as to form a short upright stem.

The polyps are long, cylindrical, soft; the collected polyps are attached by a slightly widened base. The polyps are retractile; both polyp body and tentacles are well furnished with spicules. The sexes are separate.

Family VI. ALCYONIDÆ.

Alcyonidæ, Verrill, *ex parte*, Proc. Essex Inst., vol. iv. No. v., 1865, p. 148.

Alcyonidæ + *Sarcophytidæ* + *Bellonelladæ* + *Nidulidæ*, Gray, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 4, vol. iii. pp. 123-127.

Polyp-stock fleshy, sometimes simple, sometimes irregularly branching, the basal portion, which forms a stem, generally without polyps. A thick cœnenchyma surrounds the long polyp tubes up to the retractile œsophageal portion. The digestive cavities of the polyps communicate with each other by a system of large and small nutritive canals. In some genera there is a dimorphism (siphonozooids and autozooids).

The Alcyonidæ exhibit a higher degree of colonial formation than the Xeniidæ. The polyp tubes are very long, and are united in strands which may even form a basal axis more or less rapidly broadened out so as to form a series of lobes or twigs on the terminal portions of which the polyps are found. A cœnenchyma always surrounds the polyp tubes up to the œsophageal region, and into this portion the rest of the polyp may be retracted. The cœnenchyma is studded with spicules which may acquire a special form and abundance in the stem region. The polyp tubes are connected by a system of endodermic processes, which have their origin in the tubes and give rise to fresh polyps.

The species of *Bellonella* seem related to *Nidalia*. The polyp tubes, which are surrounded by a cœnenchyma with large spicules, end in projecting calyces, within which the tentacular portion may be retracted. *Bellonella* and *Cereopsis* are also nearly related, if they are not, as we think, to be united in a single genus. *Cereopsis bocagei*, Kent, seems synonymous with *Nidalia atlantica*, Studer and *Iphethyrus speciosus*, W. Koch.