

1. *Millepora*, Linnæus (Syst. Nat., ed. 10, t. i. p. 790, 1858).

Genus with the characters of the family.

2. Family STYLASTERIDÆ, Gray.

Cœnosteum arborescent, with a strong tendency to assume a flabellar form, and to the development of the zooid pores on one face only of the flabellum, or on the lateral margins of the branches composing it. In some genera a superficial layer only of the coral is living; in others, nearly the entire mass retains its vitality. Pores with tabulæ in two genera only. Gastropores usually provided with a conical calcareous projection, "style," at their bases. In some genera a rudimentary style present in the dactylopores. Pores scattered irregularly, or grouped into more or less symmetrical systems, composed of a centrally-placed gastropore surrounded by a circlet of dactylopores. In some genera the mouths of the dactylopores appear as elongated chambers, disposed radially round the centre of the gastropore into which they open, and the chambers being separated from one another only by thin partitions, "pseudosepta"; the systems, "cyclo-systems," simulate closely the calicles of Hexactinian corals. Nematocysts of two kinds, large and small, and of uniform shape in all the genera. Three-spined nematocysts absent. Gastrozooids cylindrical or flask-shaped in form, always entirely retracted within the gastropores when at rest; those of the former shape with from four to twelve tentacles, set in one whorl, and regular in number in all the gastrozooids in each species; those of the latter devoid of tentacles. Dactylozooids simple elongate-conical bodies, devoid of tentacles, sometimes capable of entire retraction within the pores, sometimes not. Stocks of distinct sexes. Gonophores adelocodonic, developed within sacs, "gonangia," which are contained within special cavities in the substance of the cœnosteum, "ampullæ." Stocks of the two sexes alike in form as far as known, except in the size of the ampullæ, which are larger and more prominent in the females. Ampullæ containing in male stocks several gonophores; in female, in some genera, a single gonophore, in others several. Spadix, in the female gonophores, cup-shaped, embracing a single ovum only, which becomes developed into a planula within the gonangium.

1. *Sporadopora*, Moseley (Phil. Trans. Roy. Soc., 1878, part 2, p. 474) = *Polypora*, Moseley (Proc. Roy. Soc., No. 172, 1876, pp. 94, 95).

Cœnosteum pure white, composed of finely reticular but compact cœnenchym, forming stout vertical stems, usually compressed from before backwards, so as to be oval in transverse section. Stem giving off a limited number of irregularly dichotomous branches, which are flattened like it, and tend to coalesce by their lateral margins and assume a flabellate form, which is sometimes somewhat curved. Surface of the cœnosteum