

furnished by *Melitodes albocincta*, Ridley, but it is possible this may be a sexual distinction among the autozooids. We adopt the name Melitodidæ for the family, from its typical genus, and the following genera may be accepted:—

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| 1. <i>Melitodes</i> , Verrill. | | 4. <i>Psilacabaria</i> , Ridley. |
| 2. <i>Mopsella</i> , Gray, <i>emend.</i> Ridley. | | 5. <i>Wrightella</i> , Gray. |
| 3. <i>Acabaria</i> , Gray. | | 6. <i>Clathraria</i> , Gray. |
| 7. <i>Parisus</i> , Verrill. | | |

1. *Melitodes*, Verrill, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., vol. i. p. 38, 1863.

Melitæa, Lamarck, Mém. Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris, t. i. p. 413, 1815 (preoccupied by Fabricius, 1808).

In the species of this genus all the joints are penetrated by longitudinal canals; the spicules of the cœnenchyma are either large warty or kneed-spindles.

2. *Mopsella*, Gray, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1857, p. 248.

Melitella, Gray, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1859, p. 485.

Mopsella, *emend.* Ridley, Rep. Zool. Coll. H.M.S. "Alert," Alcyonaria, p. 258.

In the species of this genus also the thicker joints of the axis are penetrated by canals. The spicules are spindles and foliaceous clubs.

3. *Acabaria*, Gray, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 4, vol. ii. p. 444.

Like *Mopsella*, but the spicules of the cortex are solely spindles.

4. *Psilacabaria*, Ridley, Rep. Zool. Coll. H.M.S. "Alert," Alcyonaria, p. 363.

Without foliaceous clubs. The branches arise from the nodes almost at right angles. The annular tubercles have large spindle-shaped cortical spicules. The polyps are spirally disposed.

5. *Wrightella*, Gray, Cat. Lithophytes Brit. Mus., 1870, p. 31, *emend.* Ridley, Rep. Zool. Coll. H.M.S. "Alert," Alcyonaria, p. 580.

Mopsea, Klunzinger, Korall. des rothen Meeres, pt. ii. 1877, p. 57.

The branches and twigs are compressed; the projecting polyp calyces occur especially on the sides. In the cortex there are foliaceous clubs. There are no nutritive canals in the axis.