(June 1st) the cells were evidently filling again, although no tentacula were visibly protruded, but on the afternoon of Friday (June 2d) every cell had its polype complete, and displayed in the greatest perfection. Had these singular facts been known to Linnæus, how eagerly and effectively would he have impressed them into the support of his favourite theory! Like the flowers of the field the heads or "flores" of these polypidoms expand their petaloid arms, which after a time fall like blighted blossoms off a tree;—they do become "old in their youth," and rendered hebetous and unfit for duty or ornament by age or accident, the common trunk throws them off, and supplies its wants by ever-young and vigorous growths. The phenomena are of those which justly challenge admiration and excuse a sober scepticism, so alien are they to all we are accustomed to observe in more familiar organisms; but besides that faithful observation renders the facts undeniable, a reflection on the history of the Hydra might almost have led us to anticipate such events in the life of these zoophytes. "Verily for mine owne part, the more I looke into Nature's workes, the sooner am I induced to beleeve of her even those things that seem incredible."

I arrange the British species of this order under the following families and genera:

Family I. HYDRAIDÆ.

Polypes gemmiparous, the young pullulating from the body of the parent.

1. HYDRA. Polypes naked, single, locomotive.

Family II. TUBULARIADÆ.

Polypes gemmiparous, the gemmules naked, pullulating from the bases of the tentacula.

* No Polypidom.

2. CORYNE. Polypes naked, the tentacula filiform.

3. HERMIA. Polypes tunicated, the tentacula with glandular tips.

** A distinct polypidom.

4. TUBULARIA. Polypes not retractile within cells: Polypidoms fistular, simple or branched.