bodies seem to have been taken in to the Myxo-brachia as food, the hard parts accumulating in cavities in the animal's body after all the available nourishment had been absorbed. It is undoubted that a large number of the organisms whose skeletons are mixed with the ooze of the bottom of the sea live on the surface, the delicate silicious or calcareous shields or spines falling gradually through

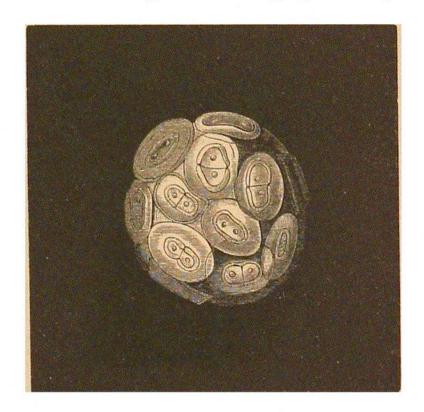


Fig. 64.—'Coccosphere.' (x. 1000.)

the water and finally reaching the bottom, whatever be the depth. I think that now the balance of opinion is in favour of the view that the coccoliths are joints of a minute unicellular alga living on the sea-surface and sinking down and mixing with the sarcode of *Bathybius*, very probably taken into it with a purpose, for the sake of the vegetable matter they may contain, and which may afford food for the animal jelly. What the coccospheres are, and