in such numbers, floating on the surface of the sea, that the suspicion seems justifiable that they possess, at all events at a certain period of their existence, a pelagic mode of life, differing in this respect from most of the remainder of their class. Thus Müller often found in the contents of the surface-net off the coast of France, the young of *Rotalia*, but more particularly *Globigerinæ* and *Orbulinæ*, the two latter frequently covered with fine calcareous tubes, prolongations of the borders of the fine pores through which the pseudopodia protrude through the shell. I took similar *Globigerinæ* and *Orbulinæ* almost daily in a fine net at Messina, often in great numbers, particularly in February. Often the shell was covered with a whole forest of extremely long and delicate calcareous tubes projecting from all sides, and probably contributing essentially to enable these little animals to float below the surface of the water by greatly increasing their surface, and consequently their friction against the water, and rendering it more difficult for them to sink."* In 1865 and 1866 two papers were read by Major Owen, F.L.S., before the Linnæan Society, "On the Surface Fauna of Mid-ocean." In these communications the author stated that he had taken foraminifera of the genera *Globigerina* and *Pulvinulina* living, in the tow-net on the surface, at many stations in the Indian and Atlantic oceans. He described the special forms of these genera which were most common, and gave an interesting account of their habits; proposing for a family which should include *Globigerina* with *Orbulina* as a subgenus, and *Pulvinulina*, the name Colymbitæ, from the circumstance that, like the radiolaria, these foraminifera are found on the surface after sunset, "diving" to some depth beneath it during the heat of the day. Our colleague, Mr. Gywn Jeffreys, chiefly on the strength of Major Owen's papers, maintained

* "Die Radiolarien." Eine Monographie von Dr. Ernst Haeckel. Berlin, 1862. Pages 166, 167.