

priests in white, and then a group of the higher clergy in cloth of gold and richly "appareled" vestments, preceding the image, which was carried aloft under a crimson canopy. The image was certainly not a high work of art, but it seemed to be loaded with valuable ornaments. Behind the canopy walked the civil governor (Count de Praya de Victoria), the military governor, and some of the high State functionaries, and the procession was closed by a column of monks. As the image approached, the people knelt everywhere within sight of it, and remained kneeling until it was past. It is, of course, difficult for us to realize the convictions and feelings under which the inhabitants of San Miguel unite in these singular pageants. No one could doubt that the devotional feeling was perfectly sincere; and it was moderate, with no appearance either of gloom or of excitement; the manner of the large crowd was throughout grave and decorous.

We looked with great interest the next morning to see

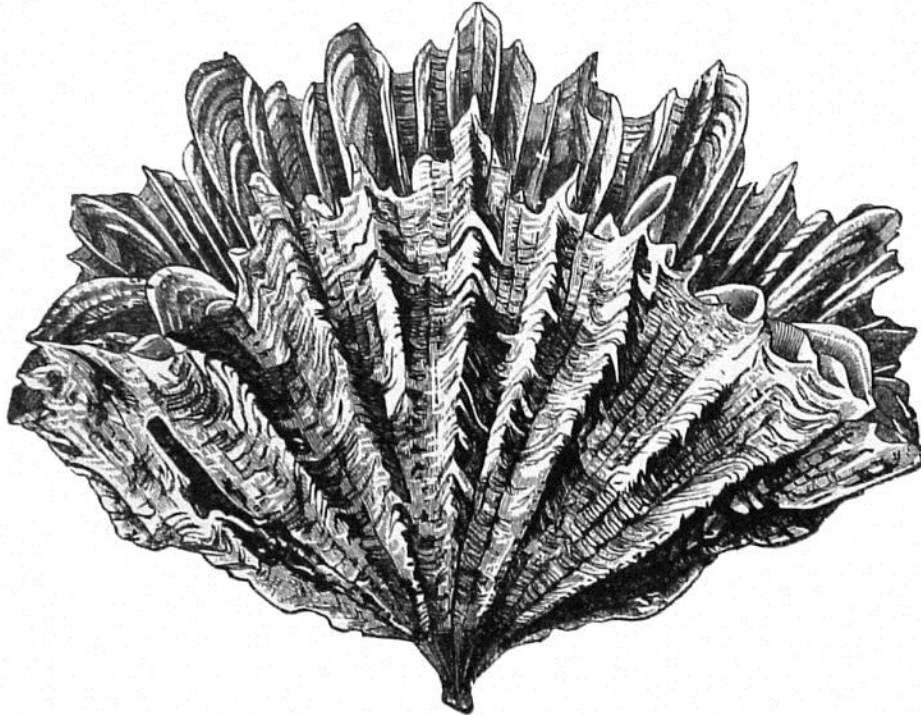


FIG. 12.—*Flabellum alabastrum*, MOSELEY. Slightly enlarged. (No. 78.)

whether our friends had got the coveted rain; but although the peaks and ridges fringing the crater-valleys were shrouded un-