

West Indies generally; off the coast of South America (Station 122); in the Red Sea and Indian Ocean, amongst the East Indian Islands and the Philippines. Some uncertainty exists as to its occurrence in the Mediterranean, and further evidence on this point is still wanting.

In the fossil condition its range extends as far back as the Miocene epoch, and possibly to the Eocene, but there is no record of its appearance in præ-Tertiary times.

Orbitolites, Lamarck.

Helicites, pars, Guettard [1770].

Orbitolites, Lamarck [1801], Bronn, Goldfuss, Defrance, Blainville, Serres, Michelin, d'Orbigny, Carpenter, Archiac and Haime, Parker and Jones, Carter, Norman, Brady, Moebius, Abich, &c.

Discolithus, pars, Fortis [1802].

Discolites, Montfort [1808].

Orbulites, pars, Lamarck [1816], Schweigger, Lamouroux, Deslongchamps, Defrance, Blainville.

Marginopora, Quoy and Gaimard [1833], Blainville.

Orbitulites, Bronn [1838], Reuss, Karrer, Gümbel, Terquem, Hantken

Sorites, *Amphisorus*, Ehrenberg [1839].

Cupulites, pars, d'Orbigny [1847].

Orbiculina, pars, Williamson [1851], Jones, Parker, and Brady.

Omphalocyclus, Bronn [1853].

Pavonina, Costa [1856].

The structural and morphological features of the genus *Orbitolites* have been repeatedly and exhaustively expounded by Dr. Carpenter,¹ whose latest researches, embodied in his recent Challenger Report, leave nothing fresh to be said on the more important aspects of the subject. At the same time the genus is one of peculiar interest, as representing the highest and most complex development attained by the porcellanous group of Foraminifera, and it lies within the scope of the present Memoir to direct attention to the internal structure of the shelly skeleton of the various species, so far at any rate as may be requisite to understand the meaning of the external characters by

¹ *Vide*—1850. On the Microscopic Structure of Nummulina, Orbitolites, and Orbitoides, *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.*, vol. vi. p. 21, pls. iii–viii.

1856. Researches on the Foraminifera,—Monograph of the Genus Orbitolites, *Phil. Trans.*, p. 187, pls. iv.–ix.

1862. Introduction to the Study of the Foraminifera, p. 105, pl. ix.

1883. Report on the specimens of the Genus Orbitolites collected by H.M.S. Challenger during the years 1873–1876, *Zool. Chall. Exp.*, part xxi. pp. 1–49, pls. i.–viii.

1883. Researches on the Foraminifera: Supplemental Memoir; on an Abyssal Type of the Genus Orbitolites, a Study in the Theory of Descent, *Phil. Trans.*

Nor should an early paper by Prof. W. C. Williamson be overlooked:—

1851. On the Minute Structure of the Calcareous shells of some recent species of Foraminifera, *Trans. Micr. Soc. Lond.*, vol. iii. p. 105, pls. xvii., xviii.,

in which the descriptions, though brief and provisional, were far in advance of any previously published.