

to the nature of the aperture, the term is still employed in the original sense. Two subordinate groups of triserial forms have since been established, *Chrysalidina* and *Tritaxia*, the former for those with porous aperture, the latter for such as have a single, round, central orifice; leaving to *Verneuilina* the larger series, in which the aperture more or less resembles that of the typical *Textularia*.

The minute structure of the test varies in precisely the same manner and to the same extent as that of *Textularia* proper. The walls are either coarsely arenaceous, as in *Verneuilina polystropha*, finely arenaceous and smooth externally, as in *Verneuilina pygmæa*, or hyaline and conspicuously perforate, as in *Verneuilina spinulosa*. Under the name *Rhynchospira abnormis*, von Hantken has figured (Mittheil. Jahrb. d. k. ung. geol. Anstalt, p. 69, pl. vii. figs. 17-19) an interesting modification of *Verneuilina*, in which the exterior is ornamented by a number of minute tubercles, scattered with some regularity over a portion, or in some cases over the whole, of the surface of the shell.

In the typical condition the test is triangular in contour, and the margins are thin or subcarinate; but in those species in which the segments are inflated or subglobular, it takes the form of a rounded triserial spire, slightly compressed on three sides.

No limits can be laid down for the geographical or bathymetrical distribution of the genus; the different species affect different conditions of latitude and depth, and in one or other of its various modifications it is found over the whole world. Its earliest, appearance, geologically speaking, is in rocks of the Cretaceous period, and its occurrence is recorded in microzoic formations of almost every subsequent age.

*Verneuilina triquetra*, Münster, sp. (Pl. XLVII. figs. 18-20).

*Textularia triquetra*, Münster, 1838 (in Römer's paper), Neues Jahrb. für Min., &c., p. 384, pl. iii. fig. 19.

„ „ Reuss, 1845, Verstein. Böhm. Kreid., pt. 1, p. 39, pl. xiii. fig. 77.

„ *atlantica*, Bailey, 1851, Smithsonian Contrib., vol. ii. art. 3, p. 12, figs. 38-42.

„ (*Verneuilina*) *triquetra*, Parker and Jones, 1863, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 3, vol. xi. p. 92.

The original drawings of this species accompanying Römer's memoir are very small and ill defined, and those given by Reuss some years later are not much more serviceable as a means of identification. So far as can be gathered, both authors intended to portray an organism with the general contour and structure of that represented in Pl. XLVII. fig. 19. The precise shape, however, is not of great moment, for the species resembles other Textularians in the variability of its external aspect, the same locality furnishing long slender specimens like fig. 20, and short pyramidal forms such as that already referred to. The test is arenaceous, the exterior generally rugose; sometimes sponge-picules are used in conjunction with sand as building material, and the angular