

varieties with an obtuse or rounded margin, and subglobular forms. The former genus also furnishes isomorphs of the elongate partially uncoiled species of *Cristellaria*, such as *Cristellaria crepidula* and *Cristellaria obtusata*; and the question has arisen whether these should be retained amongst the typical *Cassidulina*, or transferred to the genus *Ehrenbergina* described on a later page; but, as in the case of *Cristellaria*, it has been found impossible to separate such forms from the strictly convolute varieties; and the precedent established in that genus has therefore been followed.

There is, however, one modification of the type which is non-spiral throughout, and which bears about the same relation to *Cassidulina* that *Nodosaria* bears to *Cristellaria*. Specimens of this nature are exceedingly rare; and, pending the discovery of sufficient material for the full elucidation of their structure, they have been assigned provisionally to a new sub-genus *Orthoplecta* ( $\delta\rho\theta\acute{o}s$ , straight, and  $\pi\lambda\epsilon\kappa\tau\omicron\varsigma$ , plaited).

The test of *Cassidulina* is invariably perforate. The walls are thin, calcareous, hyaline, smooth externally, and free from surface-ornament of any kind.

The distribution of living *Cassidulina* is world-wide, almost irrespective of latitude or depth. In the fossil condition the genus is not very common; it makes its appearance in the Eocene period, and is represented from time to time in beds of later geological age.

*Cassidulina lævigata*, d'Orbigny (Pl. LIV. figs. 1-3).

- Cassidulina lævigata*, d'Orbigny, 1826, Ann. Sci. Nat., vol. vii. p. 282, pl. xv. figs. 4, 5;—Modèle, No. 41.  
 „ *pulchella*, Id. 1839, Foram. Amér. Mérid., p. 57, pl. viii. figs. 1-3.  
 „ *punctata*, Reuss, 1849, Denkschr. d. k. Akad. Wiss. Wien, vol. i. p. 367, pl. xlvi. fig. 4, a. b.  
 „ *lævigata*, Williamson, 1858, Rec. For. Gt. Br., p. 68, pl. vi. figs. 141, 142.  
 „ *sicula*, Seguenza, 1862, Atti dell' Accad. Gioenia, ser. 2, vol. xviii., p. 109, pl. i. figs. 7, 7a.  
 „ *lævigata*, Parker and Jones, 1865, Phil. Trans., vol. clv. p. 377, pl. xvii. fig. 64, a. b. c.

The test of the typical *Cassidulina lævigata* is nearly circular in outline, biconvex or lenticular, and has a thin, often slightly carinate, peripheral edge. The segments are numerous, long, narrow, much curved, and scarcely at all inflated; and the sutures are but little excavated on the exterior. In some specimens the shell-perforation is scarcely visible, in others the pores are numerous and conspicuous. The peripheral keel never amounts to a feature of any importance, as in *Cristellaria* and some other genera; at best it is very narrow and ill-defined, and seldom completely encircles the test; in rare examples (fig. 3) it is more or less serrate or jagged. None of the various "species" enumerated in the foregoing synonymy present characters differing in any material respect from the type, nor have they any claim to be considered as even varietally distinct.