

In the living condition the genus has been found at almost every latitude hitherto explored, and it has a bathymetrical range extending to depths of 2400 fathoms or more. As a fossil it furnishes some of the oldest known Foraminifera, having been identified in beds of Lower Silurian age. There is some doubt as to its presence in the Carboniferous rocks, but in those of the Permian system and thenceforward it is one of the commonest generic types, and one of the most widely distributed.

The literature of the genus is correspondingly extensive, and it affords an example of reckless species-making without a parallel even amongst the Foraminifera. One memoir, however, is worthy of mention as an exception to the mode of treatment generally pursued, namely, the admirable monograph of Prof. Silvestri,¹ in which a commendable and on the whole successful effort is made to reduce a varied series of forms into reasonable "specific" groups; and it is a matter for regret that the scheme of this work was not extended, so as to furnish a complete synopsis of the genus. Considerable assistance in the identification of specimens may be derived from von Schlicht's illustrations of Tertiary Foraminifera² and Prof. Reuss's notes thereupon;³ but notwithstanding the diminished number of species recognised by the last-named author in his maturer years, the nomenclature would bear further reduction without loss to science.

Nodosaria lævigata, d'Orbigny (Pl. LXI. figs. 17-22, 32).

A. Typical form,—tapering to a point, or apiculate, at the primordial end.

Nodosaria (Glandulina) lævigata, d'Orbigny, Pl. LXI. figs. 20-22.

- "Cornu Hammonis erectum globosius," Plancus, 1739, Conch. Min., p. 16, pl. xiii. fig. 1.
Nodosaria (Glandulina) lævigata, d'Orbigny, 1826, Ann. Sci. Nat., vol. vii. p. 252, pl. x. figs. 1-3.
Glandulina lævigata, Id. 1846, For. Foss. Vien., p. 29, pl. i. figs. 4, 5.
 „ *ovula*, Id. Ibid. p. 29, pl. i. figs. 6, 7.
 „ *pygmaea*, Reuss, 1850, Haidinger's Naturw. Abhandl., vol. iv. p. 22, pl. ii. fig. 3.
 „ *inflata*, Bornemann, 1855, Zeitschr. d. deutsch. geol. Gesellsch., vol. vii. p. 320, pl. xii. figs. 6, 7.
 „ *lævigata*, Id. Ibid. p. 320, pl. xii. fig. 8.
 „ *elongata*, Id. Ibid. p. 321, pl. xii. fig. 9.
 „ *acuminata*, Costa, 1856, Atti dell' Accad. Pontan., vol. vii. p. 125, pl. xi. fig. 19.
 „ *inflata*, Id. Ibid. p. 126, pl. xi. fig. 21.
 „ *apiculata*, Id. Ibid. p. 127, pl. xi. fig. 22.
 „ *pyrula*, Id. Ibid. p. 370, pl. xxvii. fig. 26.
 „ *abbreviata*, Neugeboren, 1856, Denkschr. d. k. Akad. Wiss. Wien, vol. xii. p. 68, pl. i. fig. 1.
 „ *lævigata*, Id. Ibid. p. 67, pl. i. figs. 3, 4.
 „ *elliptica*, Reuss, 1863, Sitzungsab. d. k. Ak. Wiss. Wien, vol. xlviii. p. 47, pl. iii. figs. 29-31.
 „ *globulus*, Id. Ibid. p. 66, pl. viii. figs. 94, 95.

¹ Le Nodosarie fossili nel terreno subapennino Italiano e viventi nei mari d'Italia.—Monografia del Prof. Orazio Silvestri, Catania, 1872.

² Die Foraminiferen des Septarienthones von Pietzpuhl, Berlin, 1870.
 Sitzungsab. d. k. Ak. Wiss. Wien., 1870, vol. lxii. p. 455.