

The test of *Polymorphina* is almost invariably free; there is, however, little doubt that one species with somewhat exceptional characters, *Polymorphina concava*, Williamson, is parasitic when living; and the "cervicorn" varieties are not unfrequently found growing attached to foreign bodies.

The dimorphous modifications of *Polymorphina*, those in which the early spiral segments are succeeded by a straight or curved linear series, constitute the subgenus *Dimorphina* of d'Orbigny. Such forms are rare. As a group they correspond morphologically to *Sagrina* and *Clavulina*, the dimorphous representatives of *Uvigerina* and *Valvulina* respectively.

The geographical distribution of *Polymorphina*, within certain bathymetrical limits, is world-wide. It is found in the Arctic Seas, as far north as lat. 79° 35' N., and in the opposite hemisphere nearly as far south as Kerguelen Island, lat. 46° 46' S. It is essentially a shallow-water genus, and is most abundant at depths of less than 80 or 100 fathoms. At the same time there are certain forms of which fine examples are met with as low as 400 fathoms, and some of the smaller starved varieties are present even to depths of 2000 or 2500 fathoms.

The geological range of the genus extends back as far as the Upper Trias of Derbyshire (Jones and Parker), and the Raibl Beds of South Germany (Gümbel); it becomes tolerably common in the Lias, and thenceforward is found in microzoic rocks of every successive period.

*Polymorphina lactea*, Walker and Jacob, sp. (Pl. LXXI., typical, fig. 11; var., fig. 14).

"*Serpula tenuis ovalis lævis*," Walker and Boys, 1784, Test. Min., p. 2, pl. i. fig. 5.

"*Polymorpha Subcordiformia* vel *Oviformia*," Soldani, 1791, Testaceographia, vol. i. pt. 2 p. 114, pl. cxii. figs. ll, nn, &c.

*Serpula lactea*, Walker and Jacob, 1798 (*vide* Kanmacher), Adams's Essays, 2nd ed., p. 634, pl. xxiv. fig. 4.

*Vermiculum lacteum*, Montagu, 1803, Test. Brit., p. 522.

*Polymorphina lactea*, Macgillivray, 1843, Moll. Aberd., p. 320.

*Arethusa lactea*, Thorpe, 1844, Brit. Mar. Conch., p. 233.

*Globulina lachryma*, Reusa, 1845, Verstein. böhm. Kreid., pt. i., pp. 40, 110, pl. xiii. fig. 83.

*Pyrulina ovulum*, Ehrenberg, 1854, Mikrogeologie, pl. xxxi. figs. 35, 36.

*Polymorphinu muensteri*, Reuss, 1855, Sitzungsab. d. k. Ak. Wiss. Wien, vol. xviii. p. 249, pl. viii. fig. 80.

*Globulina roemeri*, Id. Ibid. p. 245, pl. vi. fig. 63.

*Polymorphina lactea*, typica (pars), Williamson, 1858, Rec. For. Gt. Br., p. 71, pl. vi. fig. 147.

" *lactea*, var. *communis*, Id. Ibid. p. 72, pl. vi. figs. 153-155.

" *lactea*, Brady, Parker, and Jones, 1870 (Monograph of *Polymorphina*), Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond., vol. xxvii. p. 213, pl. xxxix. fig. 1, a-c.