

character is always apparent. Shells belonging to the "laciniate" group are readily distinguished from the class of specimens already referred to, in which the anomalous features depend on mere irregularity of growth or on actual additions to the test (Pl. XVII. figs. 1-5), and which for the most part partake more of the nature of monstrosities than of definable varieties.

The occurrence of *Orbitolites complanata*, var. *laciniata*, is limited to a few localities. It was obtained in great abundance in shallow water on the coral-reefs of Tongatabu, Friendly Islands, and of the neighbouring Fiji group, but was not collected elsewhere during the Challenger voyage.

### Sub-family 5. *Alveolininæ*.

#### *Alveolina*, d'Orbigny.

*Discolithus*, pars, Fortis [1801].

*Nautilus*, pars, Fichtel and Moll [1803].

*Borelis*, Montfort [1808], Bronn, Ehrenberg.

*Miliolites*, *Clausulus*, Montfort [1808].

*Fusciolites*, Parkinson [1811], Sowerby.

*Melonites*, Lamarck [1812].

*Alveolites*, Defrance ? [1816], Brongniart.

*Oryzaria*, Defrance [1820].

*Melonia*, Defrance [1824], Blainville, Deshayes, Eichwald, Reuss.

*Alveolina*, d'Orbigny [1826], Deshayes, Reuss, Leymerie, Czjzek, Rüttimeyer, Carter, Archiac and Haime, Carpenter, Gemmellaro, Parker and Jones, Karrer, Gümbel, Brady, Moebius, &c.

*Orbiculina*, pars, d'Orbigny [1846].

The generic term *Alveolina* is employed for a group of recent and fossil porcellanous Foraminifera, the most familiar examples of which are the long fusiform shells conspicuous amongst the microzoa of coral-sands. These represent one extreme of a somewhat extensive morphological series—that in which the axis of growth is longest as compared with the breadth of the test. The other forms are relatively shorter and broader, and take successively elliptical, prolate, spherical, oblate, and discoidal shapes, according to the degree in which the length of the axis is diminished. The minute structure of the shell of the various modifications of the genus has been so fully described and illustrated by Dr. Carpenter (Introd. Foram., p. 99 *et seq.*) that anything further than a brief account of its more interesting general features would be superfluous.

The shell is spiral, and consists of a number of arched segments wound around a more or less elongated axis, each chamber being divided into a number of smaller spaces or chamberlets. The outline of the segments is marked externally by depressed lines, nearly equidistant and extending from pole to pole; and slighter furrows, at right angles to the principal sutures, indicate the position of the secondary septa which subdivide the chambers