

abnormally large primordial chamber; whilst *Nodosaria approximata* differs only in its greater length and larger number of segments. Characters like these cannot be accepted as valid zoological distinctions, on any principle short of naming each individual specimen.

In the recent condition *Nodosaria plebeia* is rare, but it has been found with allied forms in the North Atlantic, at a depth of 435 fathoms.

As a fossil it occurs in the Middle Lias and in the Chalk, as well as in certain deposits of Tertiary age.

*Nodosaria (D.) soluta*, Reuss (Pl. LXII. figs. 13–16;—var. Pl. LXIV. fig. 28).

- Dentalina oligostegia*, Reuss, 1850, Haidinger's Naturw. Abhandl., vol. iv. p. 25, pl. ii. fig. 10.  
 „ *lilli*, Id. Ibid. p. 25, pl. ii. fig. 11.  
 „ *soluta*, Reuss, 1851, Zeitschr. d. deutsch. geol. Gesellsch., vol. iii. p. 60, pl. iii. fig. 4, a. b.  
 „ *globifera*, Reuss, 1855, Sitzungsber. d. k. Ak. Wiss. Wien, vol. xviii. p. 223, pl. i. fig. 3.  
*Nodosaria soluta*, Bornemann, 1855, Zeitschr. d. deutsch. geol. Gesellsch., vol. vii. p. 322, pl. xii. fig. 12.  
*Dentalina globulifera*, Neugeboren, 1856, Denkschr. d. k. Akad. Wiss. Wien, vol. xii. p. 81, pl. ii. fig. 10.  
*Nodosaria orularis*, Costa, 1857, Mem. Accad. Sci. Napoli, vol. ii. p. 141, pl. i. figs. 8, 9.  
*Dentalina distincta*, Reuss, 1860, Sitzungsber. d. k. Ak. Wiss. Wien, vol. xl. p. 184, pl. ii. fig. 5.  
 „ *catenula*, Id. Ibid. p. 185, pl. iii. fig. 6.  
 „ *discrepans*, Id. Ibid. p. 184, pl. iii. fig. 7.  
*Dentalina soluta*, Stache, 1864, Novara-Exped., geol. Theil, vol. i., Paläont., p. 203, pl. xxii. fig. 29.  
*Nodosaria (D.) grandis*, Reuss, 1865, Denkschr. d. k. Akad. Wiss. Wien, vol. xxv. p. 131, pl. i. figs. 26–28.  
 „ „ *soluta*, Id. Ibid. p. 131, pl. ii. figs. 4–8.  
 „ „ *guttifera*, Parker and Jones, 1865, Phil. Trans., vol. clv. p. 343, pl. xiii. fig. 11.  
*Dentalina soluta*, Hantken, 1875, Mitth. Jahrb. d. k. ung. geol. Anstalt., vol. iv. p. 29, pl. ii. figs. 2, 14.

*Nodosaria soluta* is on the whole the most typical representative of a group of *Nodosariæ* characterised by large globular segments of nearly equal size. The segments are comparatively few in number, usually from three to five, but occasionally as many as eight; the primordial chamber is often relatively large, and nearly always mucronate. The shell is sometimes a good deal bent, but more often nearly straight; it varies in magnitude from  $\frac{1}{2}$ th to  $\frac{1}{8}$ th inch (1 to 5 mm.) and in rare cases attains a length of  $\frac{1}{4}$ rd inch (8.4 mm.), or even more. The presence or absence of the terminal mucro and other quite unimportant details have been made the ground of distinction in most of the forms enumerated in the synonymy. The figures given in Pl. LXII. sufficiently illustrate the general characters of the species; the specimen represented in Pl. LXIV. fig. 28, exhibits very faint superficial striæ on the basal aspect of the segments.

*Nodosaria soluta* is not uncommon in the North Atlantic, at depths ranging from 300