

observed off Ascension Island, 7 fathoms; off the coast of South America, near Pernambuco, 350 fathoms; off Cape de Verde Islands, 11 fathoms; off Sombrero Island, 450 fathoms, and elsewhere in the West Indies; and in coral-sands from Bermuda.

Owing to the confusion in which the nomenclature is involved, it is difficult to state precisely the geological range of this species. Gümbel has described and figured, under the name *Orbitolites præcursor*, an Orbitolite of the complex type, obtained from the Alpine Lias of the neighbourhood of Roveredo, which appears to differ in no important particular from the living representatives of the present form, except in its small and somewhat obscure spiral commencement. Setting this aside, probably the earliest known appearance of the species is in the Upper Cretaceous formation of Maestricht and elsewhere in the Low Countries (Faujas, Hagenow, Bronn). It occurs in the Early Tertiaries of the Gironde (d'Orbigny); in the "Calcaire grossier" of the vicinity of Paris (Lamarck, d'Orbigny, Goldfuss, &c.), and in that of Forêts and St. Gilles in Belgium (Galeotti); in the "Calcaire moellon" of Montpellier (Serres); in the Bracklesham Beds of Hampshire, (Fisher); and in the yellow Nummulitic Limestone of North-Western India (Archiac). Lastly, it has been found in the Miocene of Malta (Brady), and in the Crag of the east of England (Jones, Parker, and Brady).

*Orbitolites complanata*, var. *laciniata*, H. B. Brady (Pl. XVI. figs. 8-11).

"*Orbitolites* with plicate margin," Carpenter, 1856, Phil. Trans., pl. v. figs. 2, 3.

"*Orbitolites*, complicirte Varietät," Bütschli, 1880, Bronn's Kl. u. Ord. d. Thier-Reichs, vol. i. pl. v. fig. 4.

*Orbitolites laciniatus*, Brady, 1881, Quart. Journ. Micr. Sci., vol. xxi. N. S., p. 47.

*Orbitolites complanata*, var. *laciniata*, Carpenter, 1883, Report on the Genus Orbitolites, Zool. Chall. Exp., part xxi., pl. vii.

This is an exceedingly interesting modification of *Orbitolites complanata*. The central portions of the test show but little deviation from the normal plan of growth; but near the margin, the disk becomes strongly sinuate or crumpled, and usually at the same time splits horizontally so as to form a double periphery, the two edges of which approximate at intervals, but otherwise are separated by deep irregular fissures. Under favourable conditions the specimens attain very large dimensions, and are not unfrequently an inch (25 mm.) or more in diameter. The division of the margin entails no departure from the typical structure, as each lamella presents the same arrangement of the parts as the disk itself; but in some of the outer annuli the partitioning into chamberlets is often incomplete or altogether wanting (Pl. XVI. fig. 11).

The salient peculiarities of the test are no doubt the result of exuberant growth, and consequently assume a great diversity of form; but although no two specimens are exactly alike in the shape or extent of the marginal development, the same general