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1848.

Miscellaneous.

of the shell like the Nautili and Ammonites. Persuaded that a careful investigation of the structure of the Nummulites could alone decide respecting the form of the animal which constructed these singular habitations, we set earnestly about it, and after frequently repeated observations and sections, fractions, sawings and grindings, and having examined with the microscope a multitude of Nummulites as hard as quartz or the most compact limestone, we had the good fortune to meet with a number from which we might remove successively the circumvolutions of the spire by means of a kind of cleavage, which has led us to conclude :—

1. That the *Nummulites* were external multispiral shells with enveloping convolutions, and at the same time polythalamian.

2. The sides of these shells were perforated in a similar manner to what is observed in the *Rotalia* and *Nonionina*.

3. It was through these holes that the numerous tentacula or pseudopoda with which the animal was provided were exserted (organs of prehension or locomotion).

4. The septa of the chambers leave a triangular aperture between them and the last-formed convolution of the spire by means of which they all communicate.

5. All the chambers were occupied at the same time by the multisegmented body of the animal.

6. The several segments were connected with one another by a tube or sipho, which at the same time fulfils the office of digestive canal.

7. The animal increased by producing new segments which were added in the same plane to those previously existing. These segments were soon enveloped by the calcareous matter which they secreted, like the mantle of the Mollusca.

8. The inhabitant of the Nummulites was neither a Polyp nor a Medusa, nor an Annelide nor a Cephalopodous mollusk, but one of those long misunderstood creatures for which D'Orbigny created the name of Foraminifera.—*Comptes Rendus, Oct.* 25, 1847.

Description of the Caligus Strömii. By W. BAIRD, M.D., F.L.S. &c.

In 1845 I found upon a salmon at Berwick a species of *Caligus* which, at that time, I thought was new. Upon more careful examination I found it approached very near the *Caligus Vespa* of M. Edwards, differing however considerably in size and other more minute distinctions. In the Copenhagen Transactions, vol. x. p. 23, and t. 7. f. 1-6, the celebrated Ström has described and figured a species of *Caligus* under the name of "Laxe luus" or salmon louse, and which he shortly defines "Monoculus thorace abdomineque ovato, cauda lobata." It is evidently the same as the specimens I found upon the salmon of the Tweed, and as Ström is the only author who seems to have noticed it, I have named it after him.

without any apparent aperture and internally a spiral cavity divided by septa into a number of minute chambers, but without a sipho (Règne Animal, iii, p. 22); which is the same thing as saying, that these chambers had no communication with each other nor with the exterior. From our examination of these fossils we have been led to admit the very opposite.

Caligus Strömii-Ström, Kiobenhavn, Selskabs Skrifter, x. 23. t. 7. f. 1-7.

Female. Carapace oval, the frontal plate somewhat prominent, without sucking discs; thorax about the same length as the carapace, narrower at upper extremity, broader at posterior extremity and terminating in two rounded lobes. The horny tubercles on the medium line of the lower portion of thorax above the vulva, large and simple. Abdomen long and narrow, nearly as long as the thorax, terminating in two lobes which give off several short, stout, plumose setæ. The sternal fork is short and simple. The oviferous tubes are long.— Length of whole body (exclusive of tubes) half an inch.

Male. The male is much smaller than the female. The carapace is oval, much larger in proportion to thorax than in female; thorax narrow and posteriorly notched rather than lobed on each side. Abdomen much shorter than in female, terminating setæ of caudal appendages longer and beautifully plumose. About half the size of female.

The Cal. Vespa (female) of M. Edwards is cnly 3 lines long and has the carapace narrow in front and very broad posteriorly, while in this species the carapace is almost an exact oval, and the animal (female) is fully half an inch in length. In C. Vespa the horny tubercle at base of thorax is small and setiferous, while in this species it is simple and of considerable size. The Vespa is said by M. Edwards to have been found in the gills of a salmon. This species I found on different parts of the body of the fish; and I have since then received specimens from Dr. Johnston, who found them also on the body of the salmon. M. Edwards does not appear to have ever seen the male.—From the Transactions of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club, vol. ii. p. 259.

FOSSIL INFUSORIA IN AMBER.

In a paper recently read before the Berlin Academy, Prof. Ehrenberg drew attention to the occurrence of fossil Infusoria in amber, a fact of considerable interest connected with the phænomena of the tertiary formation of the earth's surface. The following nine species had already been detected by him in amber :---

Amphora gracilis. Cocconeïs borealis. Cocconema Cistula ? Fragilaria rhabdosoma ? Navicula affinis. Navicula amphioxys. Bacillum (tenuis). Pinnularia capitata. Gastrum.

Navicula amphioxys is most numerous, and with Cocconeës and Amphora together with Pinnularia Gastrum form the mass.-W. F.

OBITUARY.

The Chevalier Carl Johan Schönherr, Royal Counsellor of Commerce, Knight Commander of the Royal Swedish Order of Wasa, Knight of the Polar Star, Member of the Royal Society of Stockholm, Honorary Member of the Entomological Societies of London and France, and of numerous learned bodies in Sweden and other