

and analogous to the recent forms which inhabit the Mediterranean. These bodies are entirely distinct from the testaceous habitations of snails, periwinkles, &c.: they are, in truth, not an external, but an internal apparatus; and it is supposed, that, in addition to their having served as a point of attachment and support to the soft body of the animal, they acted as a buoy, which could be made heavier or lighter at pleasure, and by which the animal was enabled either to sink



TAB. 40.—NUMMULITES, FROM THE GREAT PYRAMID OF EGYPT.

(Collected by Dr. George Hall, of Brighton.)

Fig. 1. Transverse section of a Nummulite. 2, 3. Nummulites, with the external plate partially removed.

or swim. The fossil called *Nummulite* (from its resemblance to a coin) affords a beautiful illus-