

tration of the structure of these bodies. It is of a lenticular, discoidal form, and varies in size from a mere point to an inch and a half in diameter. The outer surface is generally smooth, and marked with fine undulating lines. On splitting the shell transversely, it is found to consist of several coils, which are divided into a great many cells or chambers by oblique partitions (Tab. 40, fig. 1), apparently having no communication with each other, but which the animal, probably, had the power of filling with fluid, or air, through foramina or pores; whence the name of the order. To Dr. George Hall (physician to the Sussex Hospital), I am indebted for the specimens exhibiting this structure, which I now place before you (Tab. 40); they are from the limestone formed of nummulites, held together by calcareous cement, which constitutes the foundation rock of the Great Pyramid of Egypt, and of which that structure is in part composed. Strabo alludes to the nummulites of the pyramids, under the supposition that they are lentils which had been scattered about by the workmen, and become converted into stone.\* This polished, silicious pebble, presented me by the Marquess of Northampton, is also from Egypt; the markings on the surface are sections of the inclosed shells. The nummulite is one of the most widely diffused of fossil shells, its remains forming whole chains of

\* See Wilkinson's *Manners and Customs of the Ancient Egyptians*, vol. ii. p. 371.