

circumference; and others are described as being two feet and a half in length, with sixty-six septa. Marbles, formed of these remains, also occur; and polished slabs afford interesting sections of the septa and siphunculus.

45. CRUSTACEA.—In viewing the zoological characters of the strata, in an ascending series, the remains of crustaceous animals next arrest our attention; and so many extraordinary forms of this family are met with in the carboniferous rocks, that in order to exemplify their nature, I shall briefly describe the structure and economy of the existing tribes.

Crabs and lobsters are familiar examples of this class of animals, whose skeletons are external, and whose circulation, respiration, and organs of locomotion, are very peculiar. They occur in a fossil state in the tertiary formations, as I have already mentioned; extinct species of lobsters, crabs, &c. being found in the beds of London clay near the metropolis, and in the isle of Sheppey. In the chalk, crustacean remains are comparatively rare; but my collection contains some beautiful examples of *astacidæ* allied to the cray-fish, from the South Downs; and several species and genera from the Galt.\*

The Wealden exhibits no traces of this family,

\* Geology of the South-East of England, p. 196.