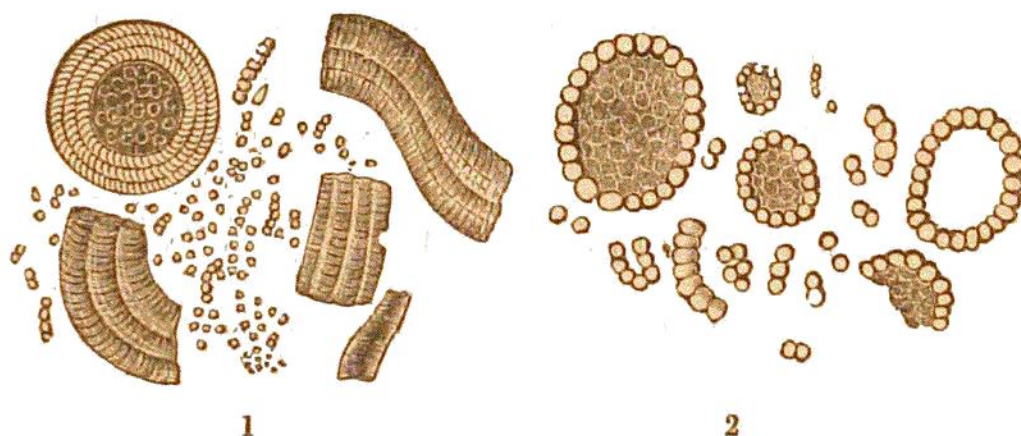


my attention has been recently directed, contains, under the article "Palæontology," a short note by Professor Ehrenberg, on the organic forms which he had observed during an exact microscopic analysis, several times repeated, of upwards of a hundred minerals of different groups; and in the valuable papers of the same author, published originally in "Poggendorf's Annalen," and lately given to the English reader in "Scientific Memoirs," Vol. I. part iii. it is observed, with respect to *Gaillonellæ*, and other species of animalcules, that their proportion merits a passing attention. "The millions of the tribes of infusoria have often been mentioned and spoken of, almost without consideration of their number, perhaps because little belief is entertained of their corporeality. But since the Poleirschiefer of Bilin must be acknowledged to consist almost entirely of an aggregation of infusoria, in widely extended layers, without any connecting medium, these animals begin to acquire a greater importance, not only for science, but for mankind at large. A cubic inch of the Poleirschiefer would contain, on an average, about 41,000 millions of the *Gaillonellæ*; and the silicious shield of each animalcule weighs about the 1-187 millionth part of a grain."

Explanation of the Figures (Tab. 154, 155,) drawn under a magnifying power of about 500 linear.



TAB. 154—BODIES IN PORCELAIN EARTH AND CHALK (*highly magnified.*)

Fig. 1. Form of porcelain earth, exhibiting concentric articulated rings; entire and in fragments.

Fig. 2. Chalk: the elementary molecules articulated in the form of rings; entire and in fragments.