

In the Yorkshire chalk, at Flamborough Head, there are numerous cup-shaped Sponges, having the external surface thickly covered with elevated, porous, perforated papillæ. A specimen in my cabinet, mineralized by pyrites, is frosted over the surface with minute crystals of carbonate of lime, with which many of the cavities of the papillæ are also lined.\*

But the strata which offer the greatest number and variety of fossil Sponges, are those of the Shanklin or Green sand, in the vicinity of the town of Faringdon, in Berkshire (*Wond.* p. 561.). These deposits consist of an aggregation of sand impregnated with iron, and comminuted shells and corals, containing myriads of perfect shells, with Sponges, and other Zoophytes; many of these are of great beauty. A cup-formed sponge, called by the workmen petrified *salt-cellar* (*Wond.* Tab. 106.), occurs in a remarkably perfect state; as well as many other interesting species belonging to various genera (*Wond.* p. 560.). The most common are the following:—

MANON.—The mass is composed of reticulated fibres, and the upper surface covered with distinctly circumscribed orifices. *Wond.* Tab. 105, fig. 1, represents *Manon peziza*.

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\* The rich collection of Mr. Bowerbank contains a fine series of this species of Spongites.