

TRIGONIA. *Lign.* 91, figs. 1, 2, 4. — These bivalves are related to the *Arcadeæ* and *Nuculæ*, but distinguished by the peculiar character of the hinge; the right valve has two large oblong teeth, which diverge from the umbo, and are strongly furrowed, and fit into two corresponding grooved cavities, in the opposite, or left valve. These shells are very thick and nacreous; they abound in certain strata of the Oolite and lower division of the chalk, but have not been observed in the Lias and older deposits of this country; there are nearly thirty British species. The only known living species of Trigonina (*Trigonina Margaritacea*), is an inhabitant of the seas of New Holland and New Zealand, where it is associated with Terebratulæ. Some of the argillaceous beds of the Oolite, as the Oxford and Kimmeridge clays, abound in Trigoninæ; Osmington and Radipole, near Weymouth, are celebrated localities for these fossil shells, which are found there in great perfection; and on the French coast, where similar strata appear, the Trigoninæ are equally abundant. Under the cliffs, near Boulogne harbour, the shore is strewn with them. Three common species are figured in *Lign.* 91. The casts of most of the species are smooth, as in fig. 2; and the collector should, therefore, search for impressions of the outer surface, when the shell is absent, as is generally the case in the Portland Oolite and Shanklin Sand, in which Trigoninæ are very numerous. Near