

covered with drifted wood and shells, and presenting a very analogous condition to the phenomenon above described."

The gelatinous bodies of the *Trigoniæ*, *Ostreæ*, *Rostellariæ*, *Terebratulæ*, &c., detached from their shells, may have been intermingled with the drifted wood in a sand-bank; while, in some instances, the animal matter would remain in the shells, be converted into Molluskite, and retain the form of the original.

A microscopical examination of the Maidstone Molluskite detects, with a low power, innumerable portions of the nacreous laminæ of shells, intermingled with the carbonaceous matter; together with many siliceous spicula of sponges, minute spines of Echinoderms, and fragments of Polyparia; these extraneous bodies probably became entangled among the floating animal matter. A large proportion of the shelly laminæ, examined with a high power, displays the peculiar structure of the *Terebratulæ* (see *Lign.* 90, fig. 2<sup>a</sup>.), of which several species are abundant in the Kentish Rag.

The dark masses and veins so common in the Sussex and Purbeck marbles, are produced by Molluskite. When at the period of their envelopment the shells were empty, they are now filled either with grey marl, and limestone, or with white calcareous spar; but when the bodies of the Mollusks were enclosed, the soft mass was changed into