

A more slender species, the body consisting of a greater number of segments, is also figured and described by Mr. Murchison.* Other impressions have been noticed in the same stone, which resemble those that would be produced by Annelides, related to the *Gordius*, or Hair-worm.†

SERPULA.—The animals of this genus are sedentary or fixed, having calcareous tubes or shells, but to which they have no muscular attachment. They have plumose or arborescent gills affixed to the anterior part of the body. The shelly tubes of the *Serpulæ*, are constantly seen on our coasts, encrusting stones, rocks, shells, sea-weeds, &c., and may be known by their contorted or twisted forms. There are about fifty British fossil *Serpulæ*. A large species has been discovered by Mr. Murchison, in the Silurian rocks (*Sil. Syst.* pl. 5. fig. 1.); several occur in the Carboniferous, Oolitic, and Cretaceous, and many in the Tertiary strata. In the Upper Chalk, a smooth tortuous *Serpula* is not uncommon (*S. plexus*, *Min. Conch.* tab. 598.); it occurs in masses several inches long. But I have not observed either in the Chalk, or in any other deposit, indications of banks of *Serpulidæ*, like those now in progress off the Bermudas, and which resemble coral-reefs in their solidity and extent.

* It is named *Nereites Sedgwickii*.

† Murch. *Sil. Syst.* p. 701.