

If the Keuper formation is poor in organic remains in France, it is by no means so on the other side of the Alps. In the Tyrol, and in the remarkable beds of Saint Cassian, Aussec, and Hallstadt, the rocks are made up of an immense number of marine fossils, among them Cephalopods, Ceratites, and Ammonites of peculiar form. The Orthoceras, which we have seen abounding in the Silurian period, and continued during the deposit of the Devonian and Carboniferous periods, appears here for the last time. We still find here a great number of Gasteropods and of Lamellibranchs of the most varied form. Sea Urchins—corals of elegant form—appear to have occupied, on the other side of the Alps, the same seas which in France and Germany seem to have been nearly destitute of animals. Some beds are literally formed of accumulated shells belonging to



Fig. 86.—*Productus Martini*.

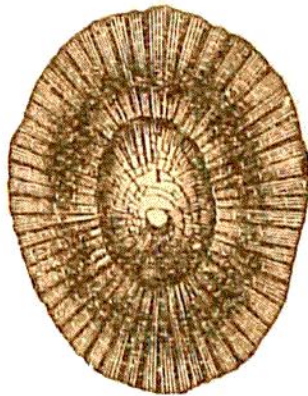


Fig. 87.—*Patella vulgata*.  
(Living.)



the genus *Avicula*; but these last-mentioned deposits are to be considered as more properly belonging to the Rhætic or Penarth strata, into which the New Red or Keuper Marl gradually passes upwards, and which are more fully described at page 207.

In following the grand mountainous slopes of the Alps and Carpathians we discover the saliferous rocks by this remarkable accumulation of *Aviculæ*. The same facies presents itself under identical conditions in Syria, in India, in New Caledonia, in New Zealand, and in Australia. It is not the least curious part of this period, that it presents, on one side of the site of the Alps, which were not yet raised, an immense accumulation of sediment, charged with gypsum, rock-salt, &c., without organic remains; while beyond, a region presents itself equally remarkable for the extraordinary accumulation of the remains of marine Mollusca. Among these were *Myophoria lineata*, which is often confounded with *Trigonia*, and *Stellispongia variabilis*.