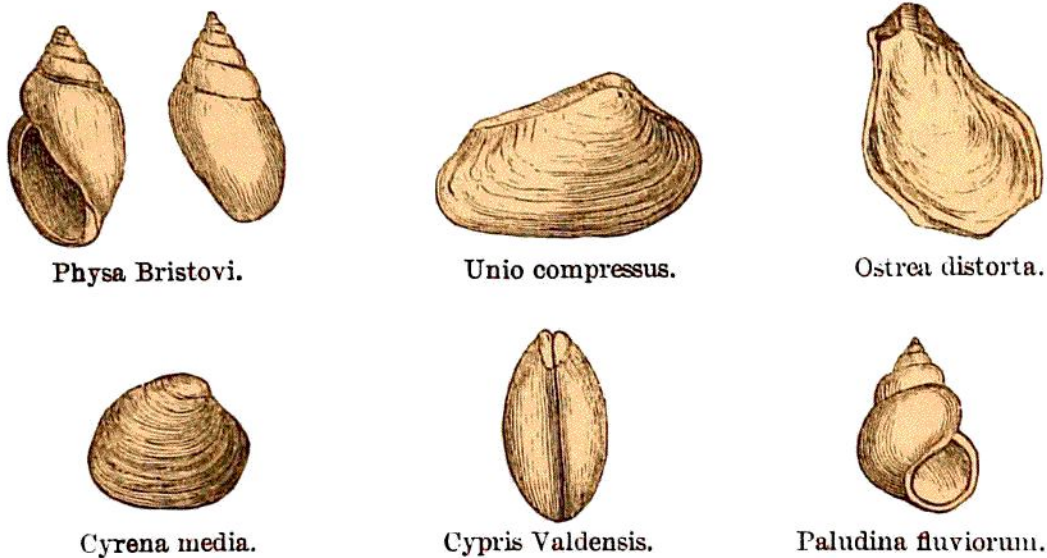


beck Limestone. It is chiefly formed of remains of the delicate fresh-water univalve, *Paludina fluviiorum*. Many fish have been found in the Purbeck strata; among these, *Lepidotus minor*, *Pholidophorus ornatus*, *Microdon radiatus*, *Ophiopsis breviceps*, *Hybodius*, and *Asteracanthus*, are the most characteristic.

Numerous wings, elytra, and other fragments of insects (Coleoptera, Orthoptera, Hemiptera, Neuroptera, and Diptera), occur in thin bands in the Purbeck Limestones. Some of these (dragon-flies, &c.) are

FIG. 41.



Group of Fossils from the Purbeck and Wealden beds.

such as would live on the marshy banks of rivers. Among the reptiles are Crocodilia—viz., *Goniopholis crassidens*, and *Macrorhynchus*; Lacertilia; fresh-water Tortoises, and Turtles—viz., *Pleurosternon concinnum*, *P. emarginatum*, *P. ovatum*, &c.

In 1854, portions of the jawbone of a small marsupial insectivorous mammal, *Spalacotherium tricuspiciens*, were found by Mr. Brodie at the base of the middle Purbeck beds. At the close of 1856, Mr. Beckles commenced a further search in the same bed,