The impoverished fauna of the Permian rocks of central Europe is found almost wholly in the limestones and brown shales, the red conglomerates and sandstones being, as a rule, devoid of organic contents. A few corals (Stenopora, Polycœlia) and polyzoa (Fenestella, Polypora, Synocladia, Acanthocladia) occur in the limestones, the latter sometimes even in continuous masses like coral-reefs, as in the dolomite-reef of S.E. Thuringia. The echinoderms are few, the chief crinoids being species of Cyathocrinus. Among the

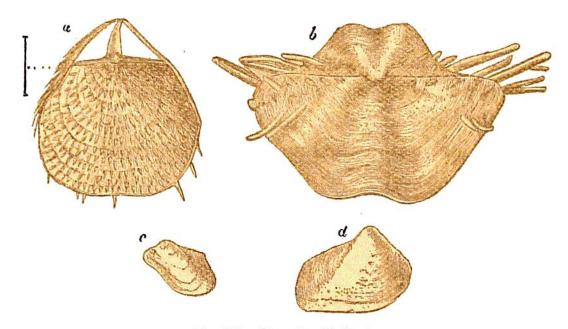


Fig. 374.—Permian Mollusks.

a, Strophalosia Goldfussi, Munst. (enlarged): b, Productus horridus, Sow.; c, Bakevellia tumida, King; d. Axinus (Schizodus) Schlotheimii, Geinitz.

brachiopods, of which some 30 species are known, the most conspicuous are forms of Productus, Camarophoria, Spirifer, Strophalosia (Fig. 374), and Aulosteges. Lamellibranchs are more numerous, characteristic genera in the German limestone being Axinus (Fig. 374), Allorisma, Solemya, Schizodus, Edmondia, Arca, Avicula, Bakevellia (Fig. 374), Pecten. Among the few gasteropods, forms of Chemnitzia, Turbo, Murchisonia, Pleurotomaria, and Chiton have been recorded. An occasional Nautilus, Orthoceras, or Cyrtorecorded.