

It is remarkable that those approximations to the structure of Ammonites which are presented by Scaphites and Hamites, should have appeared but very rarely, and this in the lias and inferior oolite,* until the period of the cretaceous formations, when the entire type of the ancient and long continued genus Ammonite was about to become extinct.

Turrilite.

The last genus I shall mention, allied to the family of Ammonites, is composed of spiral shells, of another form, coiled around themselves in the form of a winding tower, gradually diminishing towards the apex (Pl. 44, Fig. 14).†

The same essential characters and functions pervade the Turrilites, which we have been tracing in the Scaphites, Hamites, Baculites, and Ammonites. In each of these genera it is the exterior form of the shell that is principally

* The Scaphites bifurcatus occurs in the Lias of Wurtemberg, and Hamites annulatus in the Inferior oolite of France.

† The shells of the Turrilites are extremely thin, and their exterior is adorned and strengthened (like that of Ammonites), with ribs and tubercles. In all other respects also, except the manner in which they are coiled up, they resemble Ammonites; their interior being divided into numerous chambers by transverse plates, which are foliated at their edges, and pierced by a siphuncle, near the dorsal margin. (Pl. 44, Fig. 14, a, a.) The outer chamber is large.