

Genera and species of larger Cephalopods. M. D'Orbigny has noticed from 600 to 700 species of these shells, and has prepared magnified models of 100 species, comprehending all the Genera.*

The greater number of these shells are microscopic, and swarm in the Mediterranean and Adriatic. Their fossil species abound chiefly in the Tertiary formations, and have hitherto been noticed principally in Italy. (See Soldani, as quoted at page 117 of this volume.) They occur also in the Chalk of Meudon, in the Jura Limestone of the Charente inferieure, and the Oolite of Calne. They have been found by the Marquis of Northampton in Chalk flints from the neighbourhood of Brighton.

* M. D'Orbigny, in his Classification of the shells of Cephalopodous Mollusks, has established three orders. 1. Those that have but a single chamber, like the shell of the sepia and horny pen of the Loligo. 2. Polythalamous shells, which have a siphuncle passing through all the internal chambers, and which terminate in a large external chamber, beyond the last partition, such as Nautili, Ammonites, and Belemnites. 3. Polythalamous internal shells, which have no chamber beyond their last partition.

Shells of this Order have no siphuncle, but the chambers communicate with each other by means of one or many small foramina. On this distinction he has founded his Order *Foraminiferes*, containing five families and fifty-two genera.

It may be necessary to apprise the reader that doubts have been entertained as to the cephalopodous structure of some of these minute multilocular shells; and that there are not wanting those who attribute to them a different organization.