

siphuncle.* The form of the essential parts varies in each species of this genus, but their principles of construction, and manner of operation, appear in all to have been the same.

The remains of Nummulites are not the only animal bodies which have contributed to form the calcareous strata of the crust of the earth; other, and more minute species of Chambered shells have also produced great, and most surprising effects. Lamarck (Note, v. 7. p. 611), speaking of the *Miliola*, a small multilocular shell, no larger than a millet seed, with which the strata of many quarries in the neighbourhood of Paris are largely interspersed, notices the important influence which these minute bodies have exercised by reason of their numerical abundance. We scarcely condescend, says he, to examine microscopic shells, from their insignificant size; but we cease to think them insignificant, when we reflect that it is by means of the smallest objects, that Nature every where produces her most remarkable and astonishing phenomena. Whatever she may seem to lose in point of volume in the production of living bodies, is amply made up by the number of the individuals, which she multiplies with admirable

* In Pl. 44, Figs. 6, 7, sections of two species of Nummulite are copied from Parkinson. These show the manner in which the whorls are coiled up round each other, and divided by oblique septa.