

fossils.* In the United States, a range of mountains near Suggsville, three hundred feet high, is entirely composed of one species of nummulite.†

A large proportion of the sand of the Lybian desert consists of microscopic fossil remains. Below the chalk formation some deposits also abound in animalculites. But in the Wealden limestones, sandstones, and clays, I have not succeeded in detecting any trace of infusoria, although, from the abundance of several species of the minute fresh-water crustaceans, called *Cypris* (*Wond.* p. 380.), it might be expected that the carapaces of *Bacillariæ*, *Naviculæ*, &c. on which the living Cyprides feed, would occur in immense quantities. Messrs. Reade, White, Deane, H. Lee, and other observers, have obliged me by repeated examinations of the Wealden rocks, but hitherto without success. I have inspected the Sussex and Purbeck marbles by every method, but have detected nothing except fragments of bones, vegetable matter, and cases of Cyprides, broken or entire, with which the cavities of the shells (*paludinæ*) composing those limestones, are literally crammed. In the fresh-water beds

* An interesting fact was mentioned to me by a friend who lately descended the Nile; namely, that the nummulite limestone rocks are in some places washed down and disintegrated, and the loose nummulites re-deposited in the recent detritus, or mud of the river.

† See Dr. Morton. *Cret. Form. of North America.*