

Undescribed *modiola*,

Not now British : existing habitat unascertained.

*Mya truncata*,  
*Saxicava rugosa*,  
*Lucina flexuosa*,  
*Astarte compressa*,  
*Nucula nucleus*,

British ; but also boreal.

Such were the shells found in the arenaceous clay-bed of the Rothesay pit, full twenty feet from the surface ; and from where, in various other parts of the country, the same bed has been reached by excavations, or found cropping out along the shores, the list has been greatly increased. At Balnakaillie Bay, for instance, in the Kyles of Bute, where Mr. Smith of Jordanhill,—one of our highest authorities on the Pleistocene formation,—first detected the deposit, we found several specimens of the *Pecten Islandicus*,—a fine shell, which, though abundant on the coast of Labrador, has not been found living on those of Britain ; with specimens of *Panopea Norwegica*,—a massive shell, of the same boreal character, recently, however, found on our coast ; though such is its extreme rarity, that a conchological friend tells us he was lately offered a British specimen for sale, at the not very moderate price of two pounds ten shillings. Even in the instance in which the shells are not only British, but also not of extreme rarity, the *proportions* in which they occur in the beds are certainly exotic. *Astarte elliptica*, for instance, is by no means a common *Astarte* in the Scottish seas, nor is it at all known in those of England or Ireland ; whereas in Greenland it is very abundant ; and in those beds in which it is the prevailing *Astarte*, it is in the Greenlandic, not in the Scottish proportions, in which it occurs. In the same way *Cyprina Islandica*, though comparatively rare in the Firth of Clyde, is not rare in the Scottish seas generally ; but it is in the seas of Iceland, as its name implies, that it attains to its fullest numerical develop-