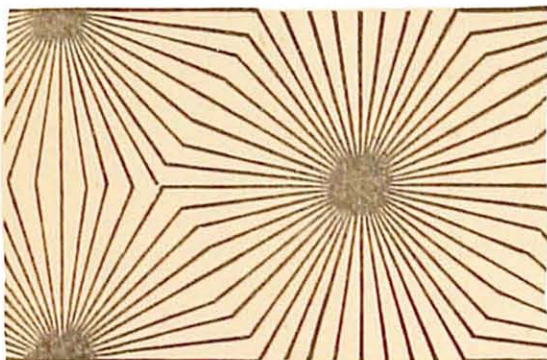


most successful ever tried. Of one of these, known as "Lane's Net," there sold a greater number of pieces than of any other pattern ever brought into the market. It led to many imitations; and one of the most popular of these answers line for line, save that it is more stiff and rectilinear, to the pattern in a recently-discovered Old Red Sandstone coral, the *Smithia Pengellyi*. The beautifully-arranged lines

Fig. 107.

Fig. 108.



CALICO PATTERN.
(Manchester.)



SMITHIA PENGELLYI.
(Old Red Sandstone.)

which so smit the dames of England, that each had to provide herself with a gown of the fabric which they adorned, had been stamped amid the rocks *eons* of ages before. And it must not be forgotten, that all these forms and shades of beauty which once filled all nature, but of which only a few fragments, or a few faded tints, survive, were created, not to gratify man's love of the æsthetic, seeing that man had no existence until long after they had disappeared, but in meet harmony with the tastes and faculties of the Divine Worker, who had in his wisdom produced them all.

You will, I trust, bear with me should I seek, in depths where the light shed by science becomes obscure, to guide my steps by light derived from another and wholly different source. In an assembly such as that which I have now the honour of addressing, there must be many shades of religious opinion. I shall, however, assail no man's faith, but simply lay before you a few deductions which, founded on my own,