

was the restoration and extension of the wide lake or chain of lakes, over the northern or molasse region of Switzerland, in which the red molasse of Oligocene time had been deposited. The lacustrine deposits accumulated there have preserved with remarkable fulness a record of the terrestrial flora and fauna of the time.

The flora of the Miocene period (Figs. 436, 437) indicates a decidedly subtropical climate in the earlier part of

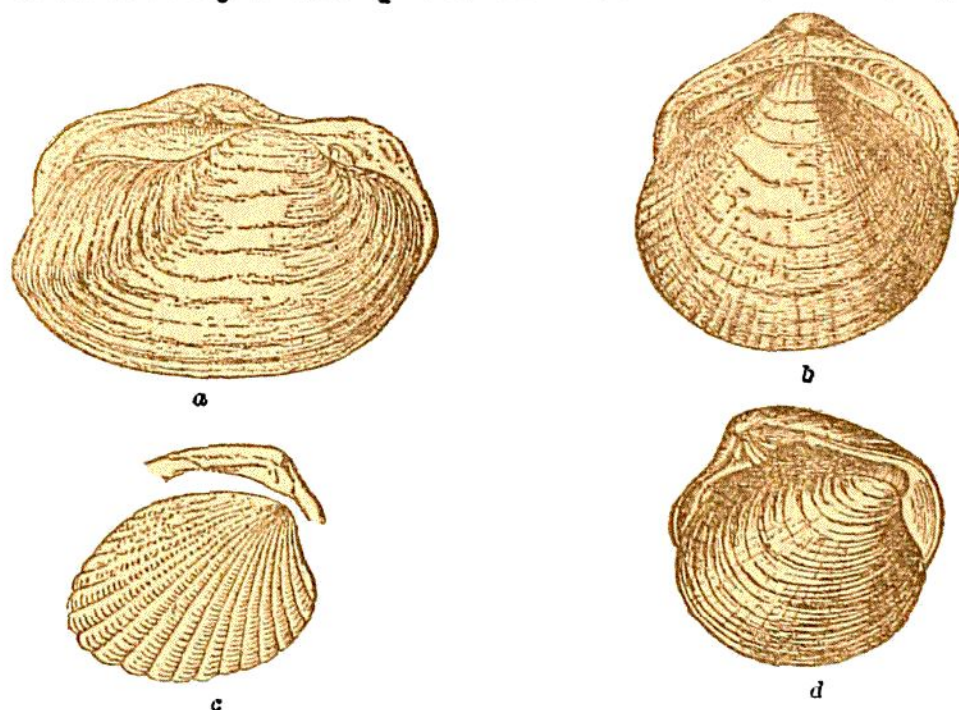


Fig. 438.—Miocene Mollusks.

a, *Panopæa* Faujasii, Men. de la Groye (‡); b, *Pectunculus glychimeris* (*P. pilosus*), Linn. (‡); c, *Cardita affinis*, Duj.; d, *Tapes gregaria*, Partsch. (‡).

that period in Europe, many of the plants having their nearest modern representatives in India and Australia.<sup>78</sup> Among the more characteristic genera are *Sabal*, *Phoenicites*, *Libocedrus*, *Sequoia*, *Myrica*, *Quercus*, *Ficus*, *Laurus*, *Cinnamomum*, *Daphne*, *Persaonia*, *Banksia*, *Dryandra*, *Cissus*, *Magnolia*, *Acer*, *Ilex*, *Rhamnus*, *Juglans*, *Rhus*, *Myrtus*, *Mimosa*, and *Acacia*. In the later part of the period, the climate, if we may judge from the character of

<sup>78</sup> Heer, "Urwelt der Schweiz"; "Flora Fossilis Helvetiæ."