

brane, by which it was lined. This evidence consists in a series of vascular impressions and corrugations on the surface of the Coprolite, which it could only have received during its passage through the windings of this flat tube.\* Specimens thus marked are engraved at Pl. 15, Figs. 3, 5, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14.

If we attempt to discover a final cause for these curious provisions in the bowels of the extinct reptile inhabitants of the seas of a former world, we shall find it to be the same that explains the existence of a similar structure

a coprolite, from the inferior chalk, in which this involute conical form is well defined. Fig. 4, is the transverse section of another Coprolite from the lias, showing the manner in which the plate coils round itself, till it terminates externally in a broken edge, at (b). In all the figures the letter b, marks the transverse section of this plate, where it is broken off near the termination of its outer coil; the sections at b, show also the size and form of the flattened passage through the interior of the screw.

A lamina of tenacious plastic substance pressed continually forwards from the interior of such a screw, into the cavity of the large intestine, would coil up spirally within it, until it attained the largest size admitted by its diameter; from this coil successive portions would be broken off abruptly, at (b,) and descending into the cloaca would be thence discharged into the sea.

\* These impressions cannot have been derived from the membrane of the inferior large intestine, because they are continued along those surfaces of the inner coils of the Coprolite, which became permanently covered by its outer coils, in the act of passing from the spiral tube into this large intestine.