

sands. The benthonic deep-sea animals live by eating the mud or ooze covering the ocean-floor, and appear to find all the

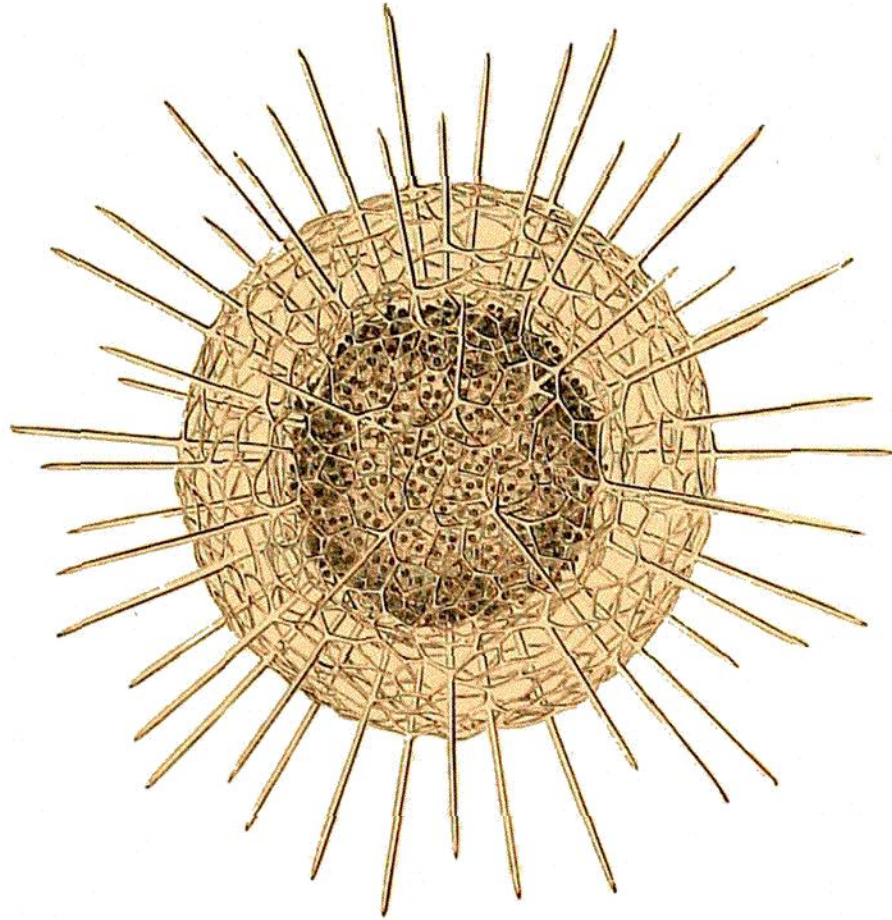


FIG. 114.  
*Haliomma wyvillei*, Haeckel. From the surface (magnified).

nourishment they require therein. The excreta of these animals are associated with a certain amount of slimy albuminoid matter, and in certain localities these excreta become so numerous that the term "coprolitic mud" has been proposed for the deposits containing them.

Animal  
remains in  
marine  
deposits.

Siliceous  
remains.

The animal remains found in deep-sea deposits are either siliceous or calcareous, those of a chitinous character being extremely rare, if not entirely absent. The siliceous remains of radiolaria (see Figs. 110 to 117) and the spicules of siliceous sponges are widely distributed over the ocean-



FIG. 115.  
*Lithoptera darwinii*, Haeckel.  
From the surface (magnified).

floor, the radiolarian skeletons being so abundant in certain regions as to make up a very large part of the deposit, which