

Mr. Hollick direct from the specimens ; and it is sufficient to add that this has been done with his customary fidelity.

I would that there were more to show for so large an amount of friendly interest and co-operation. The Report, lengthy though it appears, has no pretence to completeness, indeed a lifetime might be spent upon the collections of which it treats without exhausting their points of interest. But in a publication of this sort there are certain limits as to time which must be respected ; and the present volume is offered as an instalment in which the details of the subject have been pursued as far as has been practicable in the time that has elapsed since the return of the Expedition. The method of treatment has been made as comprehensive as possible, in the hope that the results may be of service as a starting-point for further research.

It is perhaps needful to mention that the drawing of the specimens was commenced at a very early stage of the work, and that a considerable number of the plates had been lithographed and printed off before the whole of the material had been fully examined. By no other plan could serious delay have been avoided. For the same reason the various sections of the manuscript were consigned to the printers as soon as they were completed. There are many disadvantages attending this method of proceeding, the most serious of which is the liability to discrepancies between the earlier and later portions of the work, owing to the progress of research in the interval. In the present case the discrepancies happen to be of comparatively slight practical importance. The most noticeable are in connection with the generic names inscribed on the plates, which in a few instances do not exactly correspond with the heading of the "Explanation," the latter having been printed at a much later date than the plates themselves. The inconsistencies in the letterpress due to similar causes appear to be confined to certain small matters of nomenclature, which are enumerated with the "Errata."

The term *Foraminifères* was originally employed by d'Orbigny in the Tableau méthodique de la classe des Céphalopodes,¹ at a time when the Foraminifera, or at least a considerable section of them, were looked upon as microscopic Mollusca. In the work alluded to, the class CÉPHALOPODES was divided into three Orders—I. *Cryptodibranches* ; II. *Siphonifères* ; III. *Foraminifères* ; and of these the last two, which comprised Mollusca with chambered shells, were respectively distinguished,—the *Siphonifères* by possessing a continuous central tube or siphon, the *Foraminifères* by having chambers

¹ *Annales des Sciences Naturelles*, vol. vii., 1826, p. 245.

"IIIe Ordre.—FORAMINIFÈRES, Nob.; *Asiphonoïdes*, de Haan.

"*Caract. essent.*—Un test polythalamé totalement interne ; dernière cloison terminale ; point de siphon, mais seulement une ou plusieurs ouvertures donnant communication d'une loge à l'autre."