normal habitat by oceanic currents; in this way it is possible after a careful examination of the species present in a Globigerina Ooze to tell approximately the latitude from which the deposit was collected.¹

The pelagic Foraminifera are especially characteristic of all deep-sea deposits from average or moderate depths, or from 200 to 3000 fathoms, in some equatorial regions. Near shore and in polar regions their presence is masked by the abundance of other materials, so that if present they do not as a rule make up a large part of the deposit, but in all moderate depths in the open sea, far from land, they, on the other hand, form

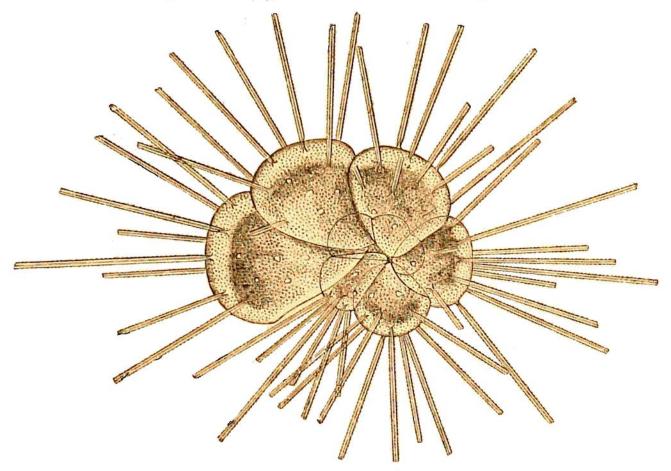


Fig. 25.—Hastigerina pelagica, d'Orbigny. From the surface (50).

the major part of the deposits, or at all events of the carbonate of lime that is present. In all the greatest depths of the ocean in the tropics, and in the lesser depths of the ocean in extra-tropical regions, the shells of these pelagic Foraminifera are either not present in the deposits, or are met with only in a fragmentary condition; like the Coccospheres, Rhabdospheres, Pteropods, and calcareous shells of other pelagic organisms, they have been wholly dissolved either in falling through the water or shortly after having reached the bottom.²

¹ See p. 31.

² See Murray, Proc. Roy. Soc., vol. xxiv. p. 535, 1876; Proc. Roy. Soc. Edin., vol. x. p. 509, 1880; Royal Institution Lecture, London, March 16, 1888, p. 7; Narr. Chall. Exp., vol. i. pp. 923, 4; Murray and Irvine, Proc. Roy. Soc. Edin., vol. xvii. p. 83, 1889.