

*J. E. Mearns*

THE  
**MINERAL CONCHOLOGY**  
OF  
**GREAT BRITAIN;**  
OR  
**COLOURED FIGURES AND DESCRIPTIONS**  
OF THOSE  
**REMAINS OF TESTACEOUS ANIMALS**  
OR  
**Shells,**  
WHICH HAVE BEEN PRESERVED AT VARIOUS TIMES AND DEPTHS IN  
THE EARTH.

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Many, O Lord my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done;  
they cannot be reckoned up in order to thee: if I would declare and speak  
of them, they are more than can be numbered.

PSALM xl. 5.

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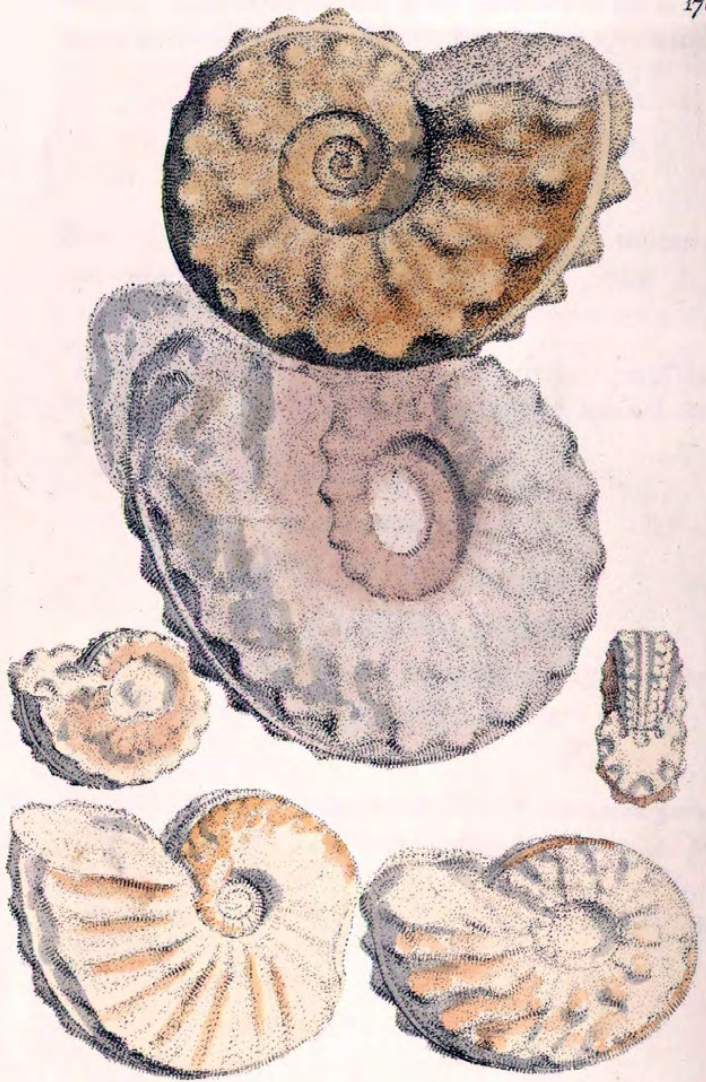
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MDCCCXVIII.



AMMONITES *varians*.

## TAB. CLXXVI.

**SPEC. CHAR.** Depressed, thickish, carinated, with a row of large tubercles near the front, and one or two rows of tubercles placed upon furcate radiating undulations; inner whorls half concealed; aperture roundish.

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No Ammonite is more variable than this in the strength of the undulation, and proportion of the tubercles; still, however, it may be known by the large tubercles near the front (these are sometimes flatted obliquely) and two lesser ones upon each radius near the commencement of it, the inner of which is generally smallest, and at times even obscure, or united to the other. The whorls are seldom more than three: the keel is much relieved, and entire. The length and breadth of the aperture are about equal to each other, and one-third the diameter of the shell.

So frequently are the casts of this handsome shell distorted, as if by the compression of the chalk, while in a soft state, of which they are composed, that specimens have often been exhibited in proof of the existence of elliptical Ammonites; but a series may easily be obtained, some individuals of which are circular; others compressed obliquely, and in such various directions, as to evince the effect of accident. The lower or hard chalk is well characterized by this fossil, as it contains it in

abundance. Some of the specimens figured are from Wiltshire, others from Sussex. I am indebted to many friends for varieties from the former county: G. A. Mantell, Esq. has kindly communicated a good suite from Hamsey, Plumpton, and other parts of the south of Sussex.

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### AMMONITES inflatus.

#### TAB. CLXXVIII.

**SPEC. CHAR.** Depressed, radiated, carinated; sides and front flattish; inner whorls exposed; the latter whorl inflated near the aperture; radii commencing with a tubercle, then furcated; keel distinct, entire; aperture square.

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**W**HETHER this is a distorted cast may remain a question, as it does not appear to be fractured in any part; its elliptical form leads to suspicion. The sudden increase of the last volution near the end, and subsequent contraction, is a curious circumstance, if it be constant, and it can hardly be the effect of pressure in any direction. The undulations or rather radii are large, commencing with a compressed tubercle, then furcate, one of the branches being sometimes divided from the other, ending in elongated compressed knobs upon the front.

A cast in the green sand of the under cliff in the Isle of Wight, lent me by the Rév. William Buckland; the lower figure is a fore-shortened view of the same specimen.