

The Hippurite (see *Ly.* I. p. 409.) is of an elongated conical form, and fixed by its base; it has internally a deep lateral channel, formed by two obtuse longitudinal ridges. The base is sometimes partitioned off by transverse septa, forming cells or cavities, as in the *Euomphalus*. The aperture, or opening, is closed by an operculum, or upper valve. The substance of the shell is cellular, and very thick, and when fractured much resembles that of the lamelliferous corals: the laminæ are sometimes separated into cells, or cavities, like the *Spondyli*. These shells often attain considerable magnitude, and in certain districts of the Pyrenees, where they abound, are called "*petrified horns*" by the inhabitants. It is remarkable, that, while in the Chalk of the South of France, Spain, Portugal, and Greece, shells of this genus so prevail, as to be considered the characteristic fossils of the formation, in the North of France they are very rare, and in England have not hitherto been discovered.\*

SPHERULITES. *Lign.* 98.—No vestiges of a shell of this genus had been noticed in the English strata, until my discovery of some fragments in the Lewes

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\* As marking the rapid progress of Palæontology in this country, it may be noticed, that the *only petrification*, figured in the first edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, is one of these supposed petrified horns, described by the Abbé Fortis!