

	Page
nished with feelers or tentacula.— <i>Cuvier, Ed. Encyc.</i> ,	93
Moss. In the Sexual System of Botany, the mosses are the second order of the class cryptogamia, which contains all the plants in which the parts of the flower and fruit are wanting or not conspicuous.— <i>Webster</i> ,	157
NAUTILUS. The nautilus belongs to the cephalopodous shell-fish. The shell consists internally of a series of chambers, all of which are pierced through by a siphunculus, or tube. The fish has the power of filling this tube with a fluid, and of exhausting it; and by altering in this way its specific gravity, it can sink or swim at pleasure,	86, 104, etc.
Nebular. (<i>Nebula</i> , cloud.) In astronomy, a nebula is a cluster of fixed stars, which cannot be distinguished from each other by the naked eye, or in some instances even by the telescope. Their dim, hazy light has somewhat the appearance of a luminous cloud. It has been an opinion with some that there is a nebular matter diffused through space, and constituting the material out of which stars are formed.* See page 102.	
Nile, detritus of,	8
Nodule. A rounded mineral mass, as flint.— <i>Mantell</i> ,	36

* This is the doctrine of the Nebular Theory, which received its most fascinating exposition and defence from Professor Nichol in his 'Architecture of the Heavens.'