we now see them, and that the surface of the earth received its present form.

The Tertiary epoch, or series, embraces three very distinct periods, to which the names of Eocene, Miocene, and Pliocene have been given by Sir Charles Lyell. The etymology of these names is derived—Eocene, from the Greek nws, dawn, and kairbs, recent; Miocene, from perior, less, kairbs, recent; and Pliocene, from naelor, more, kairbs, recent; by which it is simply meant to express, that each of these periods contains a minor or greater proportion of recent species (of Testacea), or is more or less remote from the dawn of life and from the present time; the expressions are in one sense forced and incorrect, but usage has consecrated them, and they have obtained universal currency in geological language, from their convenience and utility.

* Lyell's "Elements of Geology," p. 187.

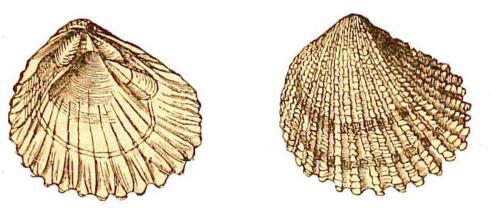


Fig. 148.—Trigonia margaritacea. (Living form.)