of a species which is probably of Lower Cambrian age. It occurs in a laminated imperfectly oolitic limestone, in oval, somewhat flattened masses, the largest of which is 18 mm. in its longest diameter. They show an obscure concentric structure, and are mostly in the state of granular calcite, but in places have the characteristic tubes of Girvanella, though less curved and twisted than those of the Chazy and Silurian specimens, and also of smaller diameter.

The formation holding the conglomerate is the Sillery (Upper Cambrian), but the fossiliferous limestone boulders which it contains are, so far as known, of Lower Cambrian age, to which therefore the specimens in question may with probability be referred. The difference in structure as well as in age entitles this form to a specific name. It may be named *Girvanella antiqua*, and may be defined as similar in size and general structure to *G. ocellata* of the Chazy, but with less convoluted and narrower tubes.

V. Receptaculites, Archæocyathus, &c.

In "The Dawn of Life" (1875), reference was made to the singular and complicated organism known as *Receptaculites*, which at that time was generally regarded as Foraminiferal, and is still placed by Zittel, in his great work on Palæontology, among forms doubtfully referable to that group. It has also been referred to sponges, though on very uncertain grounds. It has not, however, been traced, so far as I know, any farther back than the Upper Cambrian, and no structural links are known to connect it with Cryptozoon or with Archæozoon. It may, however, be regarded as a possible survivor of an ancient type, probably a protozoan, forming an unusually large and complicated skeleton, sometimes a foot in diameter, and which may not improbably have existed much earlier than the time of the