

mens exhibit plications formed at intervals, sometimes by implantation of a later one, sometimes by the bifurcation of a plication which has already grown to some extent, the latter method of increase in number is the more frequent. In each group, however, there are some shells which form their plications simultaneously, never adding to them, though growth is continued. It seems probable that the more variable specimens give rise to the forming of new groups with more plications, while those which form their plications simultaneously have reached a constant form in that group. Figure 23, Plate IV, for instance, forms its three plications simultaneously, exhibiting no tendency to variation. It has become constant. Figure 14, Plate IV, on the other hand, shows a primary plication with two added later. Some of the descendants of this shell would probably tend to a constant form like figure 23, Plate IV, showing the final number simultaneously, others might bifurcate the primary plication and with the two added form a four-plication shell.

Owing to the worn condition of many of the shells it is not always possible to tell the origin of the plications, but, of thirty-four two-plication specimens examined, twenty-one appear to have formed the two-plications simultaneously, about three-fourths of the remaining thirteen either show faint traces of an original one-plication form with the one plication bifurcated or else they converge so as to suggest that such has been their origin. A very small minority seems to form the second plication by implantation after a period of growth of the first. Of forty-three three-plication shells studied, eleven only appear to have simultaneously formed plications, while thirty-two have produced plications at irregular intervals. Seven of these show a strong one-plication form first, with the subsequent plications introduced by implantation, one at each side, usually at different stages of growth. Four show an original strong one-plication at one side of the middle and the subsequent plications, unequal in size, introduced by implantation at one side. Twenty-one give definite evidence of having been derived from the two-plication form, eight by the implantation of a third fold and thirteen by the bifurcation of one of the two original plications. Eight four-plication specimens were examined