

of the French Neocomian. The exact characters of the sutural line are unfortunately not well shown in either of these specimens. The two species represented may be provisionally described as follows, with the proviso that the diagnoses of each are, of course, subject to such modifications or amplifications as may be made necessary by the discovery of more perfect specimens.

OLCOSTEPHANUS (ASTIERIA) DEANSII. (Sp. nov.)

Plate VII, figs. 1 and 1 a.

Shell small, compressed at the sides and narrowly rounded at the periphery: umbilicus occupying rather less than one-third of the entire diameter. Volutions three or four, increasing rapidly in size, especially in the dorso-lateral direction, and rather closely embracing, about two-thirds of the sides of the inner ones being covered, the outer one a little higher than broad: aperture elliptical in outline but deeply emarginate by the encroachment of the preceding volution.

Surface marked by numerous, closely arranged, small but distinct, though not very prominent, flexuous, transverse ribs, which bifurcate about the middle of the sides and then pass uninterruptedly over the periphery.

The sutural lines are so crowded together and confused that, although fairly well preserved in places, it is scarcely possible to follow the details of any single one. The siphonal saddle, however, is small, a little higher than broad, with a minutely trifurcate apex, and an appressed spur on each side below. The first lateral saddle is large, ramose and unequally bipartite or obscurely tripartite at its summit. The siphonal lobe is large and symmetrical, with three branchlets on each side, two of which are lateral and one terminal, but the lowest of the two pairs of lateral branchlets is much the smallest of the three pairs.

The only specimen collected is considerably eroded near the aperture, as represented in fig. 1, but in the uneroded portion the maximum diameter is about forty millimetres, and the greatest breadth fourteen.