



On the Varieties of the Shells: Belonging to the Genus Nassa, Lam (Classic Reprint)

By F P Marrat

Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from On the Varieties of the Shells: Belonging to the Genus Nassa, Lam The study of varieties in the genus Nassa has achieved one great object, - it has taught us the whole details of the plan on which the external ornamentation of shells has been elaborated. The whole of the variation, from the smooth shell to the most distinctly sculptured examples, is plainly to be seen as effected through almost imperceptible gradations. An attempt might be made to show the lines of divergence by means of a diagram, but in all the instances in which this has been done in other branches of Natural History the results have not been satisfactory. Neither a tree-like form nor any genealogical chart could be made to represent varieties in anything like the ramifications in which they occur in Nature, nor could we hope to succeed in such an undertaking without being able to procure a very large additional series of species such as would enable us to follow more closely the missing links in the scale of affinity....



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