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NEW HAVEN:

Sold by A. H. MALTBY and B. & W. NOYES.—*Philadelphia*, CAREY & HART and J. S. LITTELL.—*Baltimore, Md.*, N. HICKMAN.—*New York*, CARVILL & Co., No. 103 Broadway, and G. S. SILLIMAN, No. 44 William St.—*Boston*, C. C. LITTLE & Co.—*London*, WILEY & PUTNAM, No. 35 Paternoster Row, and JAMES S. HODSON, 112 Fleet St.—*Paris*, HECTOR BOSSANGE & Co., No. 11, Quay Voltaire.—*Hamburgh*, Messrs. NESTLER & MELLE.

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power, is woven by the loom into those sumptuous tapestries and rich hangings, which have excited the astonishment of all beholders. This curious manufacture alone is worth a visit to the Institution.—*Athenæum*.

11. *Death of Olbers*.—Henry William Matthew Olbers, M. D. etc. died at Bremen, on the morning of the 2d of March, 1840, in the 82d year of his age. He was born at Arbergen, duchy of Bremen, Oct. 11, 1758, and during a long life has been an industrious and successful cultivator of science. In 1802 he discovered the planet *Pallas*, and in 1807, the planet *Vesta*. His mathematical and astronomical labors, particularly those relating to comets, have been extensive and of the highest order. He retained and employed his exalted faculties far beyond the term usually allotted to man, and gently breathed his last, beloved and venerated by his friends and the whole scientific world.

12. *New fossil Shells from N. Carolina*.—Mr. T. A. Conrad, in a letter to the Editors, says,—

Having obtained a few interesting fossil shells from Duplin county, in North Carolina, I send you for publication descriptions of some species, I believe to be new. The formation is the same as that of Virginia, which I have termed Medial Tertiary. The fossils belong to my friend Daniel B. Smith, and were found by Professor Mitchell, of Chapel Hill, N. C.

*Natica canrena*.—This differs only from the recent specimens, in having the lines of growth on the spire more deeply impressed.

*Fulgur excavatus*.—Shell pyriform, with spiral lines, very prominent on the inferior half of the large whorl; shoulder of large whorl with a wide concave depression; spire widely and profoundly channeled; the whorls bicarinated, and slightly tuberculated on the carinæ. Length 3 inches.

*Fulgur contrarius*.—Shell sinistral, pyriform, with wrinkled spiral lines, obsolete on the middle of the large whorl, shoulder obtusely angulated, without spines or tubercles; summit of the whorls concave; whorls of the spire angulated in the middle, and slightly tuberculated on the angle; beak very long, sinuous; labium with distant prominent lines within. Length 4 inches.

*Voluta Carolinensis*.—Shell subfusiform; whorls deeply channelled below the suture; superior margin of the channel carinated; spire elevated, with prominent, rather distant acute spiral lines on the three or four superior whorls; large whorl with obscure, distant spiral lines, except towards the base, which is sulcated, and strongly striated. Length 3 inches.

*Conus adversarius*.—Shell sinistral, with obsolete spiral lines, except at base, where they are prominent; angle of body whorl, and base of the whorls of the spire carinated; the carina slightly tuberculated towards the apex; spire prominent. Length  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

*Lucina jamaicensis*, Lam.—This is a single valve, which differs in no respect from the recent specimens of the West Indies.

13. *Intelligence*.—The twelfth number of Mr. Conrad's *Naiades* has been published by Mr. J. Dobson, Philadelphia.\*

Dr. Holbrook's fourth volume on North American Herpetology will soon appear.†

Dr. Binney of Boston is, we are informed, about to reprint his Monograph of the *Helices*, with plates, executed in the best style of art.

*The Zoology of the State of New York*.—It is the present intention of this commonwealth to publish the zoological portion of the survey, which has been making for three years past, in the most beautiful and elaborate manner. Every species, from mammalia to insects, to be engraved on steel plates—the insects to be described by Dr. Harris, of Cambridge, and the other departments by Dr. DeKay, the surveyor.

We hope this is only the dawn of liberal state and governmental patronage of science in this country, and that the day is not far distant when every State in the Union will follow the same example. On the return of our Antarctic Exploring Squadron, the general government will no doubt take pride in executing the scientific portion of their reports, in a manner equal to similar productions of England, and more particularly of France.

14. *Sorex parvus* and *Sorex brevicaudis*.—The Rev. James H. Linsley says in a letter to the junior Editor—*Dear Sir*: I would inform you that I discovered and caught the *Sorex parvus* of Say (small shrew) in the town of Darien, in this State, some time since. This is probably one of the smallest quadrupeds of the class mammalia, being but about two inches in length, and the tail three-fourths of an inch. I do not ascertain that it has ever been before seen east of the Mississippi. I would also add, that about a week since, (Aug. 25,) I found, drowned in a small cistern, at my house in this place, the *Sorex brevicaudis* of Say. The description in Dr. Godman's *American Nat. Hist.* is perfect, and answered in every particular to my animal, except that mine was  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, and his  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches, including the tail, which was one inch in both. The division of the ear in this animal is a remarkable feature—the ear is nearly behind the head, divided in two parts, "*tragus* and *antitragus*," very white—the nose a livid brown color, quite remarkable—the teeth as

\* See this Journal, Vol. xxix, p. 391.

† See Vol. xxix, p. 186.