

MOLLUSCA FROM THE CONTINENTAL SHELF OF EASTERN AUSTRALIA.

No. 2.

By

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(Plates xxxviii-xli.)

In continuation of a paper published under the above title in these Records¹ I offer descriptions of some more interesting forms.

Since the former paper was published little addition was made to our knowledge until quite recently, but now an old shell collector from Scotland in the person of Mr. Herbert Howell, well known in the annals of the molluscan history of Great Britain through his activities in securing rare specimens while engaged in the trawling industry off Aberdeen, has joined the trawling industry here. His interest was revived by the novelty of our fauna, and he has already made a very valuable addition to the larger faunula, and we can anticipate still more striking finds in the future; all of the species here discussed have been brought in by him.

Probably many of the species here introduced will later be found to be closely related to the fossils of the Muddy Creek and Table Cape beds. It would be a delightful study to correlate the recent and fossil species of Australia, as Finlay and Marwick are doing in connection with Neozelanic forms. In the present paper the *Glycymeris*, *Conus*, *Xenotrophon* and *Mathildona*, all of novel aspect as regards the recent fauna, appear to represent fossil types, and their exact relationship might be ascertained were long series of the fossils available.

The beautiful illustrations accompanying this article have been prepared by Miss J. K. Allan, of this Museum, and my thanks are herewith tendered for the exact representations, which cannot be surpassed; the photographs have been taken by Mr. G. C. Clutton, also of this Museum, and again thanks must be offered for the skilful portraiture of these difficult subjects.

¹ Iredale.—Rec. Austr. Mus. xiv, 1925, pp. 243-270.

The columellar plaits are six in number, three large alternating with three smaller.

Length, 27.5 mm.; breadth, 12 mm.

Trawled off Montague Island, New South Wales, 50-60 fathoms.

CONUS HOWELLI *sp. nov.*

(Plate xl, figs. 1, 8.)

This most striking discovery, resembling no recent member of our fauna, recalls the Eocene fossil *Conus ligatus* Tate,³⁹ which is comparatively coarser.

Shell of medium size, elegantly coniform, sharply angulate at the shoulder, early whorls concave above, spire acute, less than half the length of the aperture, the apical whorls missing, apparently papillate.

Colour pale dove grey, the body whorl encircled with three underlying bands of paler hue made up of slanting, white, linear marks. Adult whorls eight, sculpture of spire consisting of concentric growth lines only, the peripheral carina being subcrenulate; the growth lines become fainter on the body whorl, where anteriorly revolving liræ persist in a subdued manner.

Aperture linear, canal short narrow, outer lip thin.

Length of type, 27 mm.; breadth, 13.25 mm.

Trawled off Montague Island, New South Wales, 50-60 fathoms.

LARGISIPHO (OLIGOSTIRA) SPECTANDA *nov.*

(Plate xli, fig. 6.)

Shell large, regularly fusiform, spire a little shorter than the aperture.

Colour brownish cream.

Apical whorls missing, adult whorls eight, regularly increasing, convex, obsolete subangulate at the shoulder.

The sculpture consists of closely packed concentric cords with narrow interspaces, each interval bearing a thread; about sixteen of these can be counted upon the penultimate whorl; about sixteen rounded ribs may be distinguished running longitudinally down the shell, but ill-defined and only pronounced as peripheral elongate nodules, becoming obsolete on the last whorl, until they reappear

³⁹ Tate.—Trans. Roy. Soc. South Austr., xiii, 1891, p. 196, pl. viii, f. 9.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE XL.

- Fig. 1. *Conus howelli* Iredale.
- Fig. 2. *Cymatiella verrucosa* Reeve.
- Fig. 3. *Xenotrophon euschema* Iredale.
- Fig. 4. *Nannamoria amicula* Iredale.
- Fig. 5. *Ratifusus adjunctus* Iredale.
- Fig. 6. *Mathildona euglypta* Iredale.
- Fig. 7. *Cymatiella gaimardi* Iredale.
- Fig. 8. *Conus howelli* Iredale, view of spire from above.
- Fig. 9. *Cymatiella peroniana* Iredale.
- Fig. 10. *Natica luculenta* Iredale.
- Fig. 11. *Cymatiella lesueuri* Iredale.

