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QUEENSLAND MOLLUSCAN NOTES, No. 2.

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(Plate IX.)

CONTINUING these notes,† new species are described and rectifications of identity are recorded. These are determined mainly from the collections made by Mr. Melbourne Ward and Mr. William Boardman, of the Australian Museum, who have dredged successfully in Port Curtis, and off North-west Island, Capricorn Group. Successful shore collecting was also done by them on the mainland and islets, and this has proved of service for comparison, showing clearly the distinction between the fauna of the mainland and that of the coral reef.

The accompanying illustrations were prepared by Miss J. K. Allan, of the Australian Museum, to whom my best thanks are here tendered.

Melaxinæa labyrinthica gen. & sp. nov.

(Plate IX, figs. 1-4.)

Under this name is described the shell which in recent years has been called *Glycymeris vitreus* Lamarck. Beautiful living specimens were dredged by Mr. Melbourne Ward in Albany Passage, 9-12 fathoms, and upon checking Lamarck's reference many discrepancies were noted. Firstly, it was described from "Mers australes" collected by Péron, and this shell is only taken by the dredge in Queensland waters where Péron did not collect. This created suspicion, and the description called for a thin brittle shell, which this species is not, and then it was found that Reeve had figured the unique valve. Reeve's figures definitely showed a differently shaped shell with a more complex sculpture, the ears especially differing.

Shell semi-orbicular, very compressed, thin but solid, a little oblique. Colouration dirty cream or fawn marked with brown spots irregularly. The straight ligamental edge shows a narrow compressed ligamental area above which the umbones almost meet. The sculpture in the adult shows close radial lines of nodules on a groundwork of concentric crinkled threads. The minute juvenile here figured shows that the sculpture begins as about twenty defined nodulose ribs, the interstices minutely concentrically threaded. With age these ribs split, the nodules being less continuous, and in the adult fifty or more ribs can be

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† Memoirs of the Queensland Museum, vol. ix, part 3, 1929.

Family CONIDÆ.

Many species of Cones have been recognised from Queensland. Hedley admitted forty-three species, a number so inadequate that Shirley immediately suggested the addition of twenty-one more, but as he included extralimital shells of illegitimate origin none of his additions can be incorporated without confirmation. I recorded eleven legitimate accessions and there are still more. As with Cowries, Cones have long been a source of delight to amateur shell-collectors, their form and beauty deservedly being admired. Nearly a thousand species have been named, and it is now very difficult to determine the identity of a species among so many, as subdivision has not been systematically carried out. An attempt is here made to fix the major groups as a preliminary to more accurate nomination.

The type of the genus *Conus* has been commonly regarded as *marmoreus* Linn., but the earliest type designation appears to have been made by Swainson when he named *C. litteratus* Linn. as the type (Treat. Malac. 1840, p. 148). Previously Montfort (Conch. Syst., vol. ii, 1810, p. 407) had named *C. fulgurans* = *C. generalis* Linné as type, but that species does not occur in the tenth edition of Linné's Systema Naturæ and hence is inadmissible. In the same place Montfort carried out an excellent splitting up of the Linnean genus, introducing *Cylinder*, *Rollus*, *Hermes*, and *Rhombus* for easily recognisable groups. Swainson renamed the same groups and added some more, and then Mörch (Cat. Conch. Yoldi., 1852) proposed a few more. Little attention has since been paid to this group, so that while the major groups, which may be subfamilies or even families, are named, the majority of the species have been systematically neglected.

The group known as the Textile Cones was separated by Montfort under the name *Cylinder*; there is, however, a prior *Cylindra* as noted in my previous paper in these Memoirs, so that recourse would be to Swainson's *Textilia*, but Swainson indicated *bullata* as the type, and this is not a normal textile species. As there seems to be more than one genus in this series I propose *Darioconus*, naming *omaria* Brug. as type and *Regiconus* with *auratus* Bruguière as type. In the same manner *Hermes* and *Theliconus* were proposed for the *nussatella* series, and *glans* Bruguière has been there included, but it deserves generic rank and I introduce the name *Leporiconus* with *glans* as type and here associate *coccineus* Gmelin.

When Swainson introduced his genus *Dendroconus* he nominated *striatus* as type, and as this distinct form requires a distinct designation there is this name available though hitherto it has been used for the *betulinus* series. For this latter I propose *Cleobula*, naming *figulinus* as type.

This brings us to the Cone we are most concerned with here, viz., a form of the *ammiralis* type. Whitley and I secured a small specimen at Michaelmas Cay which was referable here, but did not exactly agree, so was left unnamed. Messrs. Ward & Boardman secured a magnificent specimen of the same species.

at North-west Isle, Capricorn Group, and it is here differentiated as *Leptoconus ammiralis temnes* subsp. nov. It is a more elegant form than the typical shell, with the spire longer and more concave. It is nearest Reeve's fig. 11c, but the markings are more pronounced, bold white blotches being present with dark-brown linear stripes, the median band bearing two interrupted lines of brown on a cream ocellated ground. *Coronaxis* was introduced by Swainson with *marmoreus* Linn. as type, but the name has been used for the *ebraeus* series, which is here named *Virroconus*, *ebraeus* being selected as type. For the *arenatus* series Swainson's *Puncticulus* is available, while Mörch's names *Rhizoconus*, *Pionoconus*, and *Phasmoconus* can be utilised for the groups typified by *miles* Linné, *magus* Linné, and *radiatus* Gmelin respectively. Many more names will be proposed before any comparative system will be brought into this family, such series as the *anemone* one of Southern Australia standing apart. For *anemone* Lamarck as type, I here propose the genus *Floraconus*, and also note that there is still confusion in connection with this species which I am attending to in another place.

Cancelaphera amasia gen. & sp. nov.

(Plate IX, fig. 8.)

Shell small, subglobose, solid, spire short, shoulder of whorls tabulate, mouth somewhat triangular, umbilicus small and deep, plaits three. Colour purplish brown with the nodules paler reddish. Whorls four with a smooth glassy protoconch of two whorls, somewhat globose. Adult whorls with deep channelled shoulder, the sculpture of longitudinal ribs crossed by strong spiral threads, the ribs being twenty in number, the threads about ten on the last whorl. The umbilicus is small, bounded by a curved rib. Columella straight with three plaits situated rather deeply, forming an anterior subcanal; posteriorly, the inner lip crossing as a thin glaze meets the outer lip, the aperture being triangular in shape but not free. Outer lip thick but not varicose, eleven long entering ridges being counted inside.

Height 15 mm.; depth 10 mm.

Habitat: Queensland. Type dredged in 9-11 fathoms, Port Curtis.

May be *Cancellaria obliquata* Lamarck of Hedley's list.

Family CYPRAEIDÆ.

In my last notes I added several species but was unable to rectify the generic nomination. I have, however, to add a new species, a very unexpected event, so have endeavoured to utilise Schilder's recent Revision (Arch. für Naturg. (Wiegmann) Year 91, 1925, abt. A, heft 10, issued in 1927), and bring our species into line with recent research. Schilder's essays mark a most pronounced advance, and again completely illustrate the development of the splitter whenever intensive study is undertaken. Beginning with few genera, Schilder has now recognised eighty-four subgenera which he used in a generic sense, and, realising that this result would cause a sensation, lumped several