

March 11, 1834.

William Spence, Esq., in the Chair.

Specimens and drawings were exhibited of a *freshwater Tortoise*, forming part of the collection of Mr. Bell, by whom it was described as the type of a new genus, for which he proposed the name of

CYCLEMYS.

*Sternum* latum, testam dorsalem longitudine ferè æquans, intergrum, solidum ; testæ dorsali ligamento squamato connexum.

CYCLEMYS ORBICULATA. *Cycl. testâ suborbiculari, carinatâ, posticè dentatâ, fusca; scutis sterni flavescentibus, fusco radiatim lineatis.*

Long. dorsî, 8 unc. ; lat. 7 ; alt. 3.

*Emys orbiculata*, Bell.

*Pullus*. *Emys Dhor*, Gray, *Syn. Rept.*, p. 20. ?

*Hab.* in Indiâ.

Mr. Bell regards the *Tortoise* which he has thus characterized as supplying a link in the connecting series of the *land* with the *freshwater* families which has hitherto been wanting ; and as especially valuable in the natural arrangement, by the clue which it furnishes to the correct location of the Indian forms of the genus *Emys*. It is, indeed, most nearly related to *Emys spinosa*, and on a superficial observation might almost be referred to that species ; but on closer examination it is found to differ from that *Tortoise*, not only specifically, but generically also : its sternal bones are permanently separated from the dorsal ones, with which they are connected by means of a ligament alone, similar to that which performs the same office in *Terrapene*. From the *Box-Tortoises*, however, to which, in this point of its structure, it is so closely related, *Cyclemys* is altogether distinct, the whole of its *sternum* being entire, instead of having, as is invariably the case in *Terrapene*, one or more transverse divisions of the *sternum* itself, the lobes of which move as on a hinge. In *Terr. Europæa* this mobility of the *sternum* exists in each lobe in a small degree, combined with the ligamentous connexion of the sternal to the dorsal bones. In *Cyclemys* the whole *sternum* moves together, though very slightly.

The transition from the *land* to the *freshwater Tortoises* may consequently be regarded as commencing in *Terrapene* ; passing through *Terr. Europæa* to *Cyclemys orbiculata* ; and thence through the Indian forms of *Emys*, which so closely resemble the latter species, to the other forms of *Emys* : the natural series of connexion between the *Testudinidæ* and the *Emydidæ* being thus completed.

The exhibition was resumed of the new species of *Shells* contained in the collection of Mr. Cuming. Those now exhibited were accom-

panied by characters by Mr. G. B. Sowerby, and consisted of species and varieties additional to those previously characterized by Mr. Broderip, (Proceedings, Part I. p. 52.) of the

#### Genus CONUS.

**CONUS ALGOENSIS.** *Con. testâ tenuiusculâ, subcylindrâ, lævi, fuscâ, fasciâ unicâ seu fasciis duabus interruptis albis; spirâ brevî, subrotundatâ, albo fuscoque articulatâ: long. 1.15, lat. 0.55 poll.*

*Hab.* ad littora Africæ Meridionalis.

Found on the sands at Algoa Bay.—G. B. S.

#### CONUS AULICUS.

*Var. roseus. Testâ formâ et staturâ Con. Aulico omninò simillimâ, maculis irregulariter subtrigonis, roseis.*

*Hab.* ad Insulam Annaa.

This, the most beautiful variety of *Con. Aulicus*, is found on the coral reefs around the Island of Annaa or Chain Island.—G. B. S.

#### CONUS NUSSATELLA.

*Var. tenuis. Testâ tenui, albâ, flavicante nebulatâ, punctulis fuscis transversè seriatim dispositis; striis transversis tenuissimis.*

*Hab.* ad Insulam Annaa.

Found on the coral reefs.

This variety differs in being more slender, much thinner, more produced at the spiral end, and wider anteriorly, from the ordinary variety. Its transverse *striæ* are, moreover, very fine, and its brown specks much more distant and regular.—G. B. S.

#### CONUS TENDINEUS.

*Var. granulosus. Testâ formâ et staturâ omninò Con. tendinei, striis transversis confertis granulosis.*

*Hab.* ad Insulam Annaa.

Found on the coral reefs.—G. B. S.

#### CONUS LUZONICUS.

*Var. Testâ formâ et staturâ omninò Con. Luzonici, fusco-nigricante, fasciâ interruptâ medianâ cærulescente-albidâ, anticè albido variâ.*

*Hab.* ad Insulas Gallapagos.

Found in the clefts of rocks at low water.

A specimen of the more usual variety, which accompanies these, shows the *epidermis*.—G. B. S.

**CONUS BRUNNEUS, Wood.** *Con. testâ turbinatâ, crassâ, coronatâ, fuscâ, maculis albis transversè fasciatim dispositis; spirâ subprominulâ, albo fuscoque maculatâ, spirâ sulcatâ, tuberculis magnis; basi lineis elevatis, subgranosis: long. 1.8, lat. 1. poll.*

Wood, Suppl. pl. 3. f. 1.

*Variat testâ crassiore, totâ fuscâ, immaculatâ.*

*Hab.* ad Insulas Gallapagos, ad Puertam Portreram et ad Panamam.

Found in the clefts of rocks.—G. B. S.

**CONUS PULCHELLUS.** *Con. testá oblongo-turbinatá, coronatá, albicante roseo tinctá ; supernè turgidulá, infrá granoso-lineatá ; punctulis nonnullis fusco-nigricantibus sparsis ; aperturá intùs carneá : long. 1·5, lat. 0·8 poll.*

*Hab.* ad littora occidentalia Australiæ.

From Freemantle.—G. B. S.

**CONUS DIADEMA.** *Con. testá turbinatá, lævi, crassá, coronatá, fuscá, fasciá angustá medianá pallidiore ; spirá subdepressá, tuberculis magnis, albis ; apice mucronato ; basi lineis elevatiusculis nonnullis ; aperturá intùs purpureo-albicante : long. 1·7, lat. 1· poll.*

*Hab.* ad Insulas Gallapagos.

Found in the clefts of the rocks at low water.—G. B. S.

**CONUS FERRUGATUS.** *Con. testá acuminato-conicá, lævi, albá, maculis longitudinalibus punctisque seriatim dispositis ferrugineis ; spirá subacuminatá, albá, ferrugineo maculatá ; basi sulcatá : long. 1·7, lat. 0·8 poll.*

*Hab.* ad Sinum Californiæ et apud Insulam Guaymas.

This differs much from *Con. monilifer* in its proportions.—G. B. S.

**CONUS REGALITATIS.** *Con. testá turbinatá, lævi, crassiusculá, supernè ventricosá, spadiceá, maculis punctulisque albo-cærulescentibus variá ; spirá depressiusculá, spiraliter sulcatá ; basi lineis elevatiusculis paucis, subrugosis : long. 2', lat. 1·1 poll.*

*Hab.* ad littora Americæ Centralis. (Real Llejos.)

Found in the clefts of rocks on sandy mud.

It may be designated *Real Llejos* or *Royalty Cone*.—G. B. S.

A specimen was exhibited of the *Musk Duck* of New Holland, *Hydrobates lobatus*, Temm. It had recently been presented to the Society by Lieut. Breton, R.N., Corr. Memb. Z. S., who entered into some particulars respecting its habits. He stated that these birds are so extremely rare, that he saw only three of them during his various excursions, which extended over twelve hundred miles of country. He has never heard of any instance in which more than two were seen together. They are met with only on the rivers, and in pools left in the otherwise dry beds of streams. It is extremely difficult to shoot them, on account of the readiness with which they dive ; the instant the trigger is drawn, the bird is under water.

Some observations by Dr. Hancock on the *Lantern-fly* and other *Insects* of Guiana were read.

The writer concurs with M. Richard and M. Sieber in regarding as erroneous the statement of Madame Merian, that the *Lantern-fly*, *Fulgora lanternaria*, Linn., exhibits at night a brilliant light, and remarks that the whole of the native tribes of Guiana agree in treating this story as fabulous : it seems to be an invention of Europeans desirous of assigning a use to the singular diaphanous projection, resembling a horn lantern, in front of the head of the insect. He also states that the *Fulgora* rarely sing.