

3. Descriptions of new Species of Shells in the Collection of Mr. J. Cosmo Melvill. By G. B. SOWERBY, JUNR.

[Received December 30, 1881.]

(Plate V.)

CONUS PRYTANIS. (Plate V. fig. 1.)

Shell somewhat pyriform, lightish brown, here and there longitudinally streaked with darker brown, encircled with a well-defined narrow pale band below the middle; spire short; whorls 9, smooth, the upper ones sloping, the rest squarely turreted, with bold whitish tubercles at the angles, banded with dark brown between the tubercles; last whorl slightly rounded at the upper angle between the tubercles, faintly ribbed towards the base. Aperture of moderate width, nearly equal at both ends, light purple within. Lip thin, with scarcely any sinus at the upper extremity. Length 35, width at the angle 20 millim.

Hab. Galapagos Islands.

In looking over Mr. Melvill's fine collection of Cones in October last, he called my attention to this shell, which he had obtained in 1873 at the sale of the late Thos. Norris's collection, and to which he had given in manuscript the above name, not having been able to identify it with any known species. I have since compared it with *C. lividus* (Brug.), which it resembles in colour, but from which it differs materially in form, being much shorter, with convex sides, slightly contracted at the base. It differs also from that species in the character of the crown, the tubercles being more clearly defined and elevated than in any specimen of *C. lividus* with which I have met. Its next ally is *C. brunneus* (Mawe), the whorls of the spire of which species are distinctly grooved, whereas in this they are smooth. It differs also from that species somewhat in form, and in the whitish band with which it is encircled. The shell it is most like in form and coronation is *C. tiaratus* (Brod.), which is a species far removed from it in colour and markings.

Upon searching the British-Museum collection, Mr. Edgar A. Smith drew my attention to three specimens similar in every respect to Mr. Melvill's shell, and undoubtedly of the same species, marked "Galapagos, sandy mud (H. Cuming)." They had been mistaken for a variety of *C. brunneus*.

CONUS EVELYNÆ, sp. nov. (Plate V. fig. 2.)

Shell elongately pyriform, pale yellow, striped with light brown, encircled with an interrupted whitish band; spire rather short; whorls flattened, with four spiral grooves, coronated with elongated flattened tubercles at the angle; apex prominent; last whorl very faintly striated, rather convex below the angle, and slightly attenuated towards the base. Aperture rather narrow, a little widened towards the base, interior white. Length 28, width at the angle 14 millim.

Although a shell of no very striking form, and having characters in common with several, there is no species to which I can very closely compare it. The spire is rather like that of *C. punctatus*, Hwass; but it is a much more slender shell, and the painting is quite of a different character.

CONUS SEMIVELATUS, sp. nov. (Plate V. fig. 3.)

Shell pyriform, plum-colour, white at the top; spire short; whorls slightly convex, smooth; last whorl rounded at the upper angle, then convex, and contracted at the base. Aperture moderate, purple within. Length 16, width 10 millim.

Hab. Red Sea.

A remarkable little species, of a very unusual colour. The whole of the spire and just the top of the last whorl is plain white, and the rest of the shell of a uniform plum-colour.

The specimen is in perfect condition; and its operculum, which is preserved, is very small and thin. Mr. Melvill gave the shell the above name in manuscript in his collection. I have seen two other specimens, varying very little from the type.

CONUS DIANTHUS, sp. nov. (Plate V. fig. 4.)

Shell rather abbreviately conical, pale pink, with irregular patches of orange; transversely rather distantly ribbed, longitudinally faintly striated, striæ undulating across the ribs and forming thereon minute scales; ribs closer, stronger, and smoother towards the base; spire rather short, regularly conical; whorls 10, flatly sloping, undulated at the angle, last two or three with a concave depression just above the angle; the last whorl has the upper angle obscurely coronated, sides nearly straight, or very slightly convex. Aperture rather narrow, a little wider towards the base, pink within. Lip very little sinuated at the upper extremity. Length 28, width at the angle 13 millim.

An interesting species of peculiar sculpture, the waved striæ crossing the ribs giving them more of a scaly than of a nodulous appearance.

CONUS WILMERI, sp. nov. (Plate V. fig. 5.)

Shell fusiform, pale brown, transversely ribbed, ribs strong, rounded, smooth, equal in width to the interstices, which are crossed with thread-like striæ; spire very elevated, whorls 11, flatly sloping, with three deep-cut spiral grooves, keeled at the angle, a spiral cord against the suture; last whorl with the upper angle acutely keeled, sides sloping, and attenuated towards the base. Aperture narrow. Lip slightly sinuated at the upper extremity. Length 21, width 8 millim.

Hab. Port Blair, Andaman Islands (*Lieut.-Col. Wilmer*).

Much narrower than *C. acutangulus* (Ch.), with a very elevated spire.

MITRA MELVILLI, sp. nov. (Plate V. fig. 7.)

Shell cylindrically fusiform, encircled throughout with deeply

punctured grooves, light brown, longitudinally promiscuously streaked with pale straw-colour and dark brown, pale straw-colour in the grooves, interrupting the dark longitudinal streaks; spire nearly equal in length to the mouth; whorls 9, sloping, scarcely convex; last whorl rather convex in the middle, and very slightly tapering towards the base. Aperture rather narrow, not contracted at the base, interior smooth, white; columella furnished with six small plaits, the lower one being scarcely visible. Lip crenulated. Length 31, greatest width (about the middle of the shell) 10 millim.

The light-coloured grooves intersecting the dark flames give a marked character to the painting of this shell.

PSEUDOLIVA (MACRON) *STEREOGLYPTA*, sp. nov. (Plate V. fig. 8.)

Shell angularly ovate, ponderous, white; spire rather short, turreted; whorls 5, convex, rounded at the angle, depressed at the suture, with a prominent ridge between the suture and the angle; the last whorl has the upper angle somewhat rounded, and a second equally rounded angle a little below, sides slightly convex, with three rather broad deep grooves near the base; umbilical ridge thick and broad. Aperture oblong-oval, smooth, white within. Lip very thick at the upper part. Columella furnished with a callosity, which is thickened into a tubercle at the upper part and depressed so as to cover the umbilicus at the lower. Length 75, width 51 millim. Length of aperture 43, width 21 millim.

The specimen is unfortunately in bad condition, the outer surface being much worn and the lip imperfect; but it is certainly worthy of notice, being the largest species of a very limited genus, and of a bold and striking outline, entirely different from the two largest species hitherto known, *P. kelletii* and *P. æthiops*.

I have not attempted to describe the surface of the shell, on account of its condition; but there are faint indications of obsolete sulci, with a sort of malleation between.

ENGINA *XANTHOLEUCA*, sp. nov. (Plate V. fig. 9.)

Shell fusiform, white, painted with yellow from the lower extremity to nearly halfway up the body-whorl, the colour terminating abruptly; longitudinally rather obliquely and distantly ribbed; spirally closely and deeply grooved; spire elevated, about equal in length to the aperture, rather tumid; whorls 6, slightly convex; last whorl rather convex above, then tapering, contracted and produced at the base. Aperture oblong. Outer lip furnished exteriorly with a slightly flattened frilled varix, and interiorly with six elongated tubercles or teeth. Columella smooth. Canal moderate, slightly recurved. Length 15, width 6 millim.

Hab. Mauritius.

COLUMBELLA (ANACHIS) *OSTREICOLA*, sp. nov. (Plate V. fig. 10.)

Shell minute, subfusiform, blackish brown, longitudinally ribbed, ribs slightly nodulous at the upper part; transversely grooved towards the base; spire acute, rather longer than the mouth; whorls

6, sloping, scarcely convex; nucleus smooth; last whorl somewhat swollen, contracted towards the base. Aperture oblong, dark brown within. Lip with a moderate sinus above, denticulated within. Canal very short. Columella with a nodulous callosity above. Length 4, width 2 millim.

Hab. Florida, on *Ostrea virginica* (Melvill).

Mr. Melvill found specimens of this shell as noted above in 1872, and in 1879 gave the species the above name in manuscript in his collection; but the shell has not I believe been hitherto described. It is allied to *C. nigricans*, but smaller and quite different.

FISSURELLA MELVILLI, sp. nov. (Plate V. fig. 11.)

Shell oval, rather elevated, broad behind, slightly contracted in front; radiately closely ribbed, ribs very little raised, alternately larger; concentrically wrinkled; pale green, interior greyish white. Orifice round, subcentral. Margin slightly irregularly wrinkled. Length 50, width 40, height 22 millim.

Differing from its congeners chiefly in the rotundity of its orifice.

PECTEN SIBYLLÆ, sp. nov. (Plate V. fig. 12.)

Shell thin, suborbicular, acutely elevated at the umbones, equilateral, equivalve. Colour light orange, concentrically faintly banded with darker orange. Upper valve slightly convex, lower somewhat flatter; both valves very finely and closely ribbed, ribs very delicately serrated. Right auricle narrow, extending to about a quarter of the length of the shell from umbo to margin; left auricle moderately broad. Alt. 58, lat. 56 millim.

A very beautiful species with delicate sculpture; the ribs are very numerous and close-set, varying slightly and promiscuously in size, not regularly alternating as in some species. The delicate close-set scales cover the whole of the ribs.

The specimen passed from the collection of the late Thomas Lombe Taylor into that of Mr. Melvill, who gave it the above name in manuscript.

PECTEN LOXOIDES, sp. nov. (Plate V. fig. 13.)

Shell rather thin, obliquely subovate, inequilateral, white, with the upper valve transversely undulately streaked, and spotted with pinkish orange. Lower valve rather deep, upper slightly convex. Radiating ribs 20 in number, prominent, rounded, smooth; interstices about equal in width to the ribs, also smooth. Auricles small, the right rather larger than the left. Alt. 25, lat. 24 millim.

Hab. Australia.

The valves of the specimen are odd; there are also odd valves of the same species in the British Museum. The species is quite unlike any hitherto described, and may be easily recognized by the obliquity of its outline.

CONUS TEXTILE, var. EUETRIOS. (Plate V. fig. 6.)

Compared with *C. canonicus* (Brug.), more pyriform and atten-

uated at the base; very closely and beautifully inlaid with minute white triangular scale-like markings upon a dark-brown ground, disposed in three broad bands; the colour in the narrow spaces between the bands is lighter brown, with the markings tending to zigzag streaks; the markings of the spire are waved streaks crossing the whorls. Length 51, width 23 millim.

Mr. Melvill had named this shell in manuscript *Conus euetrios*; and I admit that it is quite as worthy to be considered a species as *C. canonicus* (Brug.), *C. vicarius* (Lamk.), *C. verriculum* (Reeve), *C. archiepiscopus* (Brug.), *C. tigrinus* (Sowerby), *C. corbula* and *scriptus* (Sowerby), all of which, however, I consider varieties of *Conus textile* (Linnæus). It is the opinion of some that, having got thus far, other species, such as *C. abbas* (Brug.), *C. panniculus* (Lk.), *C. legatus* (Lk.), &c., should be included; but having had exceptional opportunities, from time to time, of examining large numbers of specimens of all the varieties, I continue to regard these last as species.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE V.

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| Fig. 1. <i>Conus prythanis</i> , p. 117. | Fig. 8. <i>Pseudoliva</i> (<i>Macron</i>) <i>stereoglypta</i> ,
p. 119. |
| 2. — <i>evelynæ</i> , p. 117. | 9. <i>Engina xantholeuca</i> , p. 119. |
| 3. — <i>semivelatus</i> , p. 118. | 10. <i>Columbella</i> (<i>Anachis</i>) <i>ostreicola</i> ,
p. 119. |
| 4. — <i>dianthus</i> , p. 118. | 11. <i>Fissurella melvilli</i> , p. 120. |
| 5. — <i>wilmeri</i> , p. 118. | 12. <i>Pecten sibyllæ</i> , p. 120. |
| 6. — <i>textile</i> , var. <i>euetrios</i> ,
p. 120. | 13. — <i>loxoides</i> , p. 120. |
| 7. <i>Mitra melvilli</i> , p. 118. | |

4. Descriptions of new or rare Species of Asteroidea in the Collection of the British Museum. By F. JEFFREY BELL, M.A., F.Z.S.

[Received January 10, 1882.]

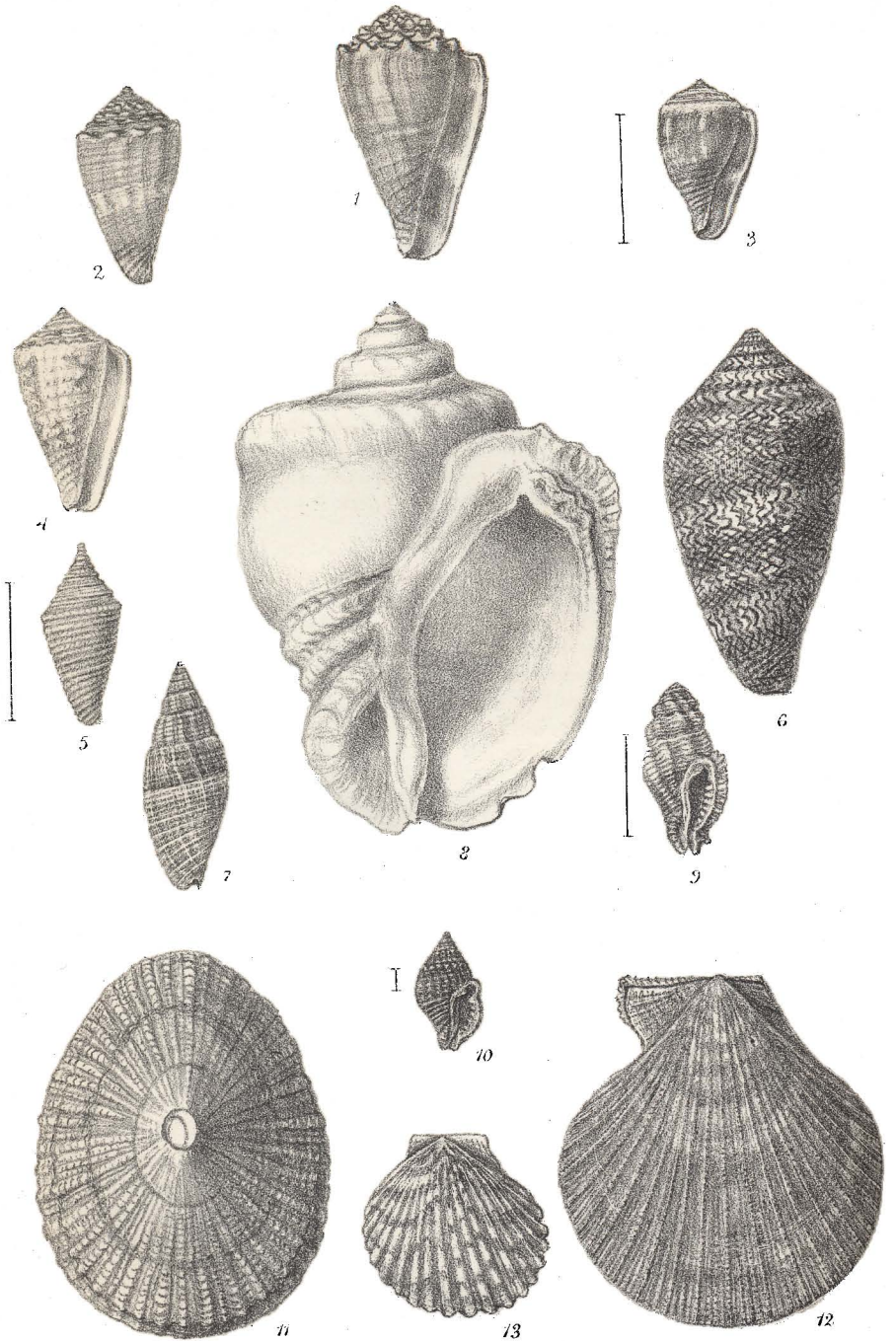
(Plate VI.)

Although naturalists are agreed that it is most convenient to publish descriptions of new species in connexion with a systematic review of the groups to which they severally belong, I venture on this occasion to depart from the custom, as a knowledge of these new species may be agreeable to those who are interested in the order, while the revisions can only appear slowly, and at perhaps great intervals of time.

CALVASTERIAS ANTIPODUM, n. sp. (Plate VI. fig. 1.)

The credit of recognizing the generic affinities of this species must be given to M. Perrier; for there is attached to the bottle containing it a label bearing, in his handwriting, "*Calvasterias*, sp." It formed part of the collection made during the voyage of the 'Erebus' and 'Terror.'

R = 61; r = 19. Arms five, greatest breadth of arm 17·5 millim. Adambulacral spines generally in a single row, stout and



GB Sowerby lith.

Hanhart imp

NEW SHELLS.