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Descriptions of Shells from the Gulf of California and the Pacific Coasts of Mexico and California. By AUGUSTUS A. GOULD, M. D.

DURING the recent war with Mexico, several valuable collections of shells were made by officers of the navy and army engaged on the Pacific coast of Mexico and California, and along the Gulf of California. Three of these have been submitted to me for examination. They were made by Col. E. Jewett and Maj. William Rich, of the army, and Lieut. Thomas P. Green, of the navy. The coast visited extended from Panama, $8^{\circ} 49' N.$ to San Francisco, about $37^{\circ} 20' N.$; and the other principal localities explored were, on the Mexican coast, Acapulco, Mazatlan, San José, and Guaymas, ($28^{\circ} N.$); La Paz, about $24^{\circ} 30' N.$ and San Juan, $27^{\circ} N.$ on the west coast of the Gulf; and San Pedro, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Monterey, on the California coast. The number of species from Col. Jewett was about 225; from Maj. Rich, 130; from Lieut. Green, 200; in all, perhaps, 400 species; and as they were collected alive by the gentlemen themselves, and their localities carefully noted at the time, they become very valuable when considered in the light of geographical distribution. It would be interesting to publish the whole list; and perhaps this may be done at some future period. It has already been done so far as respects those species which were found at Panama, and at other places in common with Panama, by the late Prof. C. B. Adams, in his very interesting work on the shells of Panama. Several very curious facts derived from a comparison of these Pacific species with the shells of the Gulf of Mexico might here be stated; but it is our present purpose to give descriptions and figures of the new species, so far as the prescribed limits of the paper will admit. Brief characters of some of

Long diameter seven eighths of an inch; short diameter not quite half an inch; height one fifth of an inch.

Inhabits La Paz, Gulf of California. *Lieut. Green.*

It has the form of *S. haliotoides*, and is nearly as smooth as *S. levigatus*. It is about the size of *S. planus*, and has the compressed form of *S. depressus*. Its honey-yellow color is peculiar.

NARICA OVOIDEA (Pl. XIV. Fig. 10.)

T. ovoidea, solida, albida, costis planulatis politis ad 11 cincta, interspatiis duplo angustioribus concinnè clathratis; spira acuta, anfr. 4. supernè tabulatis, ultimo magno, ovato: apertura ovata; labro crenulato; columellâ tenui, antrosum concavâ, plicâ medianâ instructâ; umbilico conspicuo, profundo.

Shell ovoid, solid, dingy white, surrounded with well marked grooves and square shining ribs, about eleven on the large whorl and five on the others, the grooves about half the width of the ribs, and delicately clathrate with longitudinal bars; spire acute, whorls four, shouldered above, the last whorl composing the greater part of the shell. Aperture half the length of the shell, ovate, ribs rendering the outer lip crenate; inner lip rather sharp, concave in front, slightly attached to the whorl above and having a delicate fold at the middle. Umbilicus well marked and deep.

Length seven twentieths of an inch; breadth three twentieths of an inch.

Purchased at Mazatlan. *Col. Jewett.*

This curious shell it is difficult to classify; perhaps there is no genus now defined which can properly receive it. *Littorina* (?) *angistoma* and *excavata* C. B. Adams, seem to belong to the same group.

TEREBRA ARGUTA (Pl. XIV. Fig. 19.)

T. parva, acicularis, nitida, plicis longitudinalibus rectis acutis ad 10 ornata, interspatiis concavis; albida propè suturam fusco zonata, et interdum lineis flexuosis picta; apertura angusta, lunaris; anfr. 8 planulatis, ultimo ad basim spiraliter striato.

Shell small, acicular, very acute and slender, glistening, composed of about eight flattened whorls, having on each about ten acute longitudinal folds, the spaces between fluted; a few spiral lines around the base of the last whorl; aperture narrow lunate,

white or yellowish, with a more or less distinct dusky band near the suture, and sometimes pale flexuous lines on the larger whorls.

Length five eighths of an inch; breadth one eighth of an inch.

This elegant little shell is distinguished by its small size and slender form, and its simple fluted surface without revolving lines. It has much the form and surface of *T. nitida*, but the size of *T. fictilis* and *nassoides*.

TROCHUS MARCIDUS (Pl. XIV. Fig. 11.)

T. pyramidalis, solidula, vix striata, rufo-viridis; anfract. quinque planulatis ad suturam vix discretis; basis subplana, levis, umbilico amplo profundo infundibuliformi, juxta aperturam partim tecto; apertura subrhombea, perobliqua; operculum tenue.

Shell of moderate size, strictly pyramidal, the distinction of the whorls being scarcely marked at the sutures; surface with fine incremental striæ, of a dull brownish and green color. Whorls about five, quite flat, the large one sharply angular at periphery. Base very slightly convex, highly polished and silvery near the aperture and around the umbilicus, which is deep, large and broadly infundibuliform, partially covered on the side of the aperture by a thin plate of shell, the margin of the funnel being indicated by an obtuse angle. Operculum very thin, of a dark amber color.

Axis seven eighths of an inch; diameter of base one and one eighth of an inch.

Inhabits Monterey. *Lieut. Green.*

In color and general appearance this shell would not at first sight be distinguished from *T. Montereyi*, Kiener; but it is a smaller and less elevated pyramid; and the base differs altogether in its perfectly plain, broadly tunnel-shaped umbilicus, and its entirely simple lip throughout.

TROCHUS PICOIDES.

Among the specimens obtained from Col. Jewett, was one from Santa Barbara, which would at first glance be pronounced to be *T. pica*. Being unprepared to see this species from the Pacific shores, I was led to make particular inquiry as to the certainty of its having been obtained alive at that place, and being satisfied on that point, I obtained the loan of three of the five specimens brought home.

On a critical comparison of the following differences the following differences are concerned.

W. INDIA.

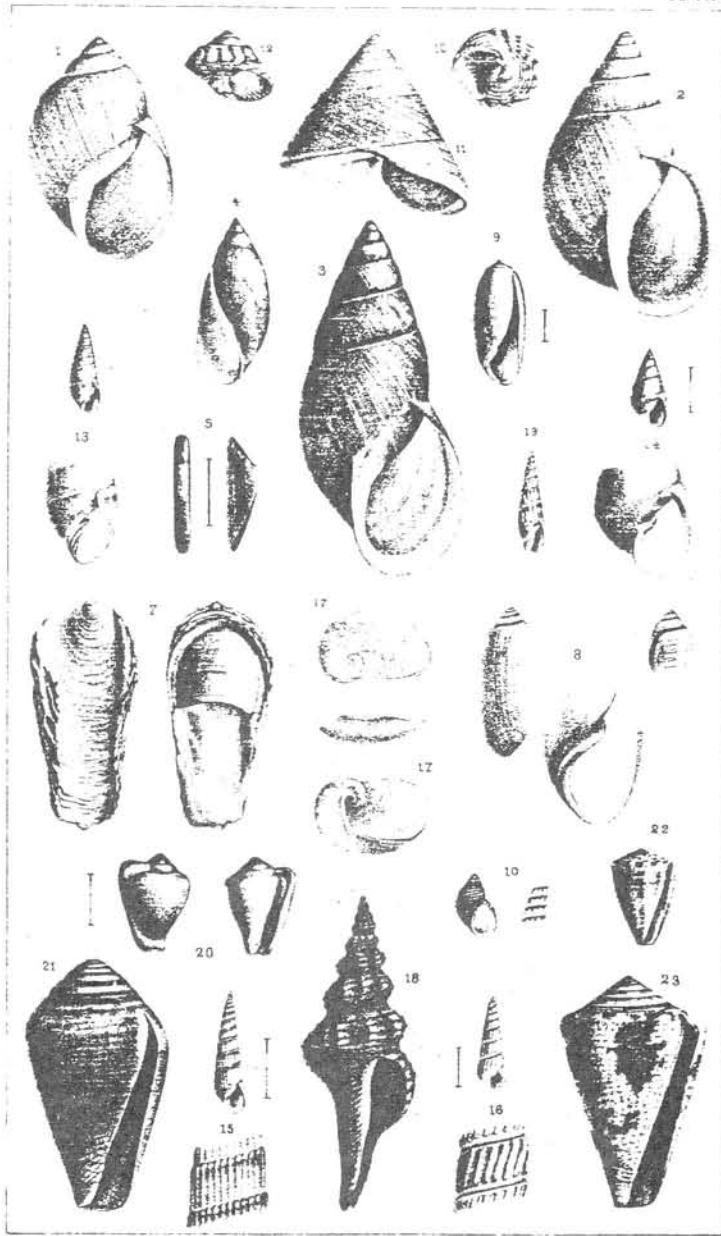
Form strictly pyramidal.
Whorls very slightly constricted.
Surface, corrugate or undulating at angles with the lines of inflexion.
Flammules confused or blotched.
Base with no tendency to reticulation.
Lip black at edge, subwhite.
Aperture very oblique, its lip sloping from junction to junction.
Columellar tooth well marked.
Columellar lip somewhat sinuate.

As I have seen no other examples, it is unlikely that some of the characters are constant in some stages of growth, and destitute of important characters. When more numerous specimens are compared, the differences prove constant in all examples of analogous species.

TROCHUS

T. ovato-conica, crassa, et undulata lineola circumferentia rotundatis; basis convexa, perforata; apertura circularis; cavitas alba.

Shell thick and heavy, without sculpture, bluish white on the last whorl, with a yellowish crossing the suture. Whorls six, slightly constricted, the last whorl obtusely rounded;



C. J. WALLIS on Stone

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X. TABULAE ICONUM.

CASSELLIS CATTORUM
TYPIS ET SUMTIBUS THEODORI FISCHER.
1853.

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