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PART 1.

Meeting January 5th, 1871.

Eight members present.

Dr. W. S. W. RUSCHENBERGER, Director, in the chair.

Various donations to the Museum and Library were announced. The following papers were read and referred to committees: "Descriptions of some new types of Palæozoic Shells." By F. B. Meek.

"Descriptions of new species of Nudibranchiate Mollusca inhabiting Polynesia, No. 2." By Wm. Harper Pease.

Mr. Tryon read extracts from a letter from Mr. Wm. M. Gabb, of St. Domingo, referring to the tenacity of life in the genus *Littorina*. Specimens of *L. muricata*, collected by Mr. G. in Sept., 1870, and forwarded by him to the Section, were exhibited, being apparently as healthy and active as if just taken out of the water.

Mr. S. R. Roberts exhibited a second specimen of the rare rayed variety of *Unio cylindricus*, Say. This individual was collected by Mr. Roberts in the Wabash river, Ind.

NOTES ON THE SYNONYMY AND DISTRIBUTION OF
MARINE GASTEROPODA.

BY W. HARPER PEASE.

The localities and distributions of the tropical forms of Mollusca, are being now accurately determined by the researches of collectors permanently located at several points in the tropics, and the errors of transient collectors, on whom we have heretofore mostly depended, are being corrected and consequently the synonymy of the species.

As the local catalogues published by such gentlemen are deserving of the highest credit, it is the more necessary that any errors they may have fallen into as to the identity of species should be corrected.

The following synonyms of the species inhabiting the Island of Bourbon, have been determined from specimens named by M. Deshayes for the gentlemen from whom I received them.

They have, in addition, been carefully compared with the published descriptions and figures.

RISSOINA ANGASII, Psc.

Rissoina turricula (Ang. non Psc.) Proc. Zool. Soc., 1867, p. 114.

Name preoccupied for a species inhabiting Polynesia, described in Proc. Zool. Soc. 1860, p. 438.

TEREBRA CONTIGUA, Psc.

Terebra assimilis (Pse. non Ang.) Am. Jour. Conch., 1869.

Name preoccupied by Mr. Angas for an Australian species, described in Proc. Zool. Soc. 1867.

TRITONIDEA ASSIMILIS, Rve.

Buccinum assimile, Rve., Con. Icon., Sp. 90.

The above species is credited to Australia by Mr. Angas in his catalogue, Proc. Zool. Soc., 1867, p. 187.

It is closely related to *D'Orbygnii*, Payr, inhabiting the Medi-

terranean, as Mr. Reeve states, and has been classed by Mr. Weinkauff as a synonym of that species. The figure in Con. Icon. was apparently taken from an immature specimen. Whether that determination is correct or not, the Australian species is quite distinct as to shape, sculpture and color. No comparison is necessary. I describe it as

TRITONIDEA AUSTRALIS, Pease.

T. assimilis, Ang. non Rve., Proc. Zool. Soc., 1867, p. 187.

T. fusiformi, elongata, longitudinaliter leviter costata, transversim regulariter sulcata; spira elongata; anfr. 6, convexo rotundata, ultimo ad basin vix recurvo; apertura angusta, labro leviter crenulato, intus vix lirato; columella subelevato laminata, dentato lirata; castaneo aut purpurascens fusca, fascia lata albida cingulata, interdum irregulariter maculata, sulcis rufescentis.

Long. 14, diam. 6 mill.

Shell fusiform, elongate, somewhat cylindrical in shape, slightly ribbed longitudinally, ribs rounded, 9-11 in number, transversely grooved throughout, the interstices forming narrow rounded ribs; spire elongate, its whorls convexly rounded; whorls six, the last slightly recurved at base; aperture narrow, outer lip finely crenulate on its edge, faintly ridged within; columella slightly elevately laminate, dentately ridged; color dark purplish or reddish brown, encircled by an irregular broad whitish band, or irregularly spotted, grooves reddish.

COLUMBELLA DERMESTOIDES, Lam.

The above is credited to Australia by Mr. Angas, in Proc. Zool. Soc., 1867, p. 195.

He remarks that the Australian form "is certainly conspecific with *C. dermestoides* of Kiener, which species is recorded as coming from the West Indies."

The *C. dermestoides*, of Kiener, is identically the same as that described by Lamarek, and both authors assign it to the Mediterranean.

It is a small variety of *Nassa corniculum*, (Olivi) which should be classed under genus *Amycla*, H. and A. Ad., as the columella is smooth and truncate at base. The Australian species belongs to another genus, being a true *Columbella*. It also differs from the Mediterranean form in other respects.

The species figured and described in Con. Icon. under the above name from the West Indies is distinct, and approaches more nearly to *C. interrupta*, Ang., described from South Australia, in Proc. Zool. Soc., 1865.