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and median wing-coverts like the back, the remainder, as well as the quills, dark brown, with slightly paler edges; the primaries rufous for the greater portion of their length, this red colour concealed when the wing is shut; tail-feathers black, edged with dull violet-blue; sides of face and entire under surface of body glossy violet-blue, a little duller than the upper surface; under wing-coverts like the breast; quills dusky brown below, the inner webs broadly rufous for a great portion of their extent. Total length 7.5 inches, culmen 0.6, wing 3.5, tail 3.3, tarsus 0.75. (*Mus. Berol.*)

Hab. Congo district.

6. On a Collection of Marine Shells from the Andaman Islands. By EDGAR A. SMITH, F.Z.S., Zoological Department, British Museum.

[Received August 16, 1878.]

(Plate L.)

The shells treated upon in this paper form part of a series recently presented to the British Museum by Capt. L. Worthington Wilmer, by whom they were dredged whilst stationed at the Andaman Islands. All, with one or two exceptions, were obtained at the depth of a few fathoms off Port Blair. The collection contains about half a dozen new forms, the most interesting of which is a remarkable shell which I have provisionally located in the genus *Fusus*. After each species I have quoted the locality first assigned to it, and others have been added on the authority of specimens in the Museum, in order to give at a glance the known geographical distribution, which is always interesting, and calculated to assist materially in the identification of the various forms.

1. *CONUS ANDAMANENSIS*. (Plate L. figs. 1, 1 a.)

Shell subcylindrical, with somewhat convex lateral outlines, pale pinkish white, marked irregularly with small brown spots and lines, and covered with a very thin, smooth, greyish epidermis: spire elevated concave, composed of ten whorls; the two nuclear ones subglobose, semidiaphanous, smooth, the four following slightly turreted, and the rest obliquely planulated, spirally sculptured with two to three fine revolving striæ; the markings on the spire are in the form of short brown lines following a radiating direction (that is, across the whorls): the last whorl has the upper angle rather obtuse, and is sulcated at the base with about twelve transverse grooves. Aperture rather narrowed above, and a little widened towards the base, white within. Lip thin, with a small sinuation at the upper extremity. Length 22 mill., diam. 11.

This pretty little species, which I am unable to place as the young state of any larger form, is remarkable on account of the fine brown dots or lines, which are irregularly scattered over its surface of a

delicate pale pink. The spire too is peculiar, on account of the few first whorls being suddenly elevated into a little prominent cone.

Since writing the above description I have seen a larger specimen from the collection of Dr. Hungerford. It measures 31 millims. in length and 15 in diameter; and the markings are rather larger, certain spots a little above the middle of the last whorl taking the form of a transverse interrupted band (fig. 1 a).

2. *CONUS CEYLANENSIS*, HWASS.

Hab. Red Sea, Ceylon, Rodriguez Island; varieties at Sandwich Islands, Lord Hood's Island, &c.

3. *PLEUROTOMA (DRILLIA) VARIABILIS*, Smith, Annals & Mag. Nat. Hist. 1877, vol. xix. p. 495. (Plate L. figs. 2 & 3.)

There is a non-adult variety of this species, which does not exhibit at this stage of growth any indication of the slight umbilical rimation which is characteristic of the mature shell. It is whitish dotted with brown beneath the suture, and stained with a darker tint above it in the spaces between the short costæ; and the spiral liræ are also dotted with brown. The body-whorl is encircled around the middle by a broad brownish band, which is darker at the edges, and below this it is entirely white.

4. *PLEUROTOMA (DRILLIA) WILMERI*. (Plate L. fig. 4.)

Shell subfusiform, not rimate, white, dotted with brown beneath the sutural line, and with a series of brown dots or (in other words) an interrupted line around the middle, the dots being situated just above the interspaces between the nodules, which form a series a little below the middle of the whorls. The lower half of the body-whorl dark brown; and a spot of the same colour stains the shell at the superior sinus; the apex is also brown. Whorls ten, broadly concave above, and somewhat acutely noded below; nodules eleven in number on the penultimate whorl, the last volution transversely striated, the basal striæ being stronger than elsewhere; aperture rather small, white, stained with dark brown at the short basal canal; labrum thin, arcuate when viewed laterally, deeply and broadly sinuated at the suture, with a second small sinus or indentation near the base; columella but little curved or sinuous, covered with a thin brown callosity, terminating above in a large white tubercle. Length 16 mill., diam. 6.

This shell is very distinguishable from its congeners, on account of the peculiarity of its painting, and the series of sharpish tubercles encircling the whorls. I have much pleasure in naming it after Capt. Wilmer, its discoverer.

5. *TEREBRA AFFINIS*, Gray.

Hab. Philippines, Fiji, Tahiti.

6. *TEREBRA EXIGUA*, Deshayes.

Hab. East Australia.

It is interesting to obtain authentic examples of this species from

the Andaman Islands, as the type shells were described as East-Australian. The specimen before me, which is apparently adult, has a length of 21 millims., and the last whorl is 4 in diameter. The costæ (about 18 on a whorl) are thickest at the upper extremity, above the sulcus which parts off the infrasutural belt, gradually attenuating downwards, and at length become quite obsolete at the extreme base of the body-whorl.

7. MUREX (MURICIDEA) CIRROSUS, Hinds.

Hab. Straits of Macassar (*Hinds*).

Some small specimens of this charming shell were dredged by Capt. Wilmer, one of which possesses an unusually long canal.

8. MUREX (MURICIDEA) RUSTICUS, Reeve. (Plate L. fig. 5.)

Hab. —?

I feel uncertain whether the Andamanese shell is without doubt the same species as that figured by Reeve. It agrees very well with the description, but exhibits some difference from the figure, which is very coarsely executed. The number of transverse ridges is greater, the mouth a little smaller; and the fronds, although a little broken and worn, would not I think, if perfect, be as long as those represented in the figure.

9. MUREX (MURICIDEA) BARCLAYANA, H. Adams.

Coralliophila barclayana, H. Ad. P. Z. S. 1873, p. 205, pl. 23. fig. 1.

Hab. Mauritius (*H. Ad.*).

The Andamanese specimen of this species, the type of which is now in the British Museum, is only 21 millims. in length, yet apparently full-grown. Its coloration is much less brilliant than the representation of the described shell, being pale pinkish white, with the lateral varix and the termination of the canal tinged with brown, the aperture being light purple.

10. MUREX (OCINEBRA) BREVICULUS, Sowerby, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1840, p. 146; Conchol. Illustr. fig. 37.

M. tetragonus, Reeve (non Broderip), Conch. Icon. iii. fig. 118.

Hab. —?

A single, much worn, yet undoubted example of this species is valuable as indicating the habitat of so interesting a form. Reeve considers it a short variety of Broderip's *M. tetragonus*, the figure he gives of the latter representing a typical *breviculus*. *M. tetragonus* proper is well figured by Sowerby in his 'Conchological Illustrations,' fig. 25. Judging from the specimens of the two species which I have examined, all of them unfortunately in a more or less worn and faded condition, I am of opinion that they are specifically distinct. Besides the much stouter and less-produced form of *M. breviculus*, its aperture is larger and more circular, white or slightly blotched with brown far within; the transverse costæ, especially on the obtuse varices, are also brown. *M. tetragonus*, on the other

hand, is white, or very pale purple, and the aperture, the interior of the basal channel, and the columella, are of a uniform light purple. It is true, however, that the sculpture in both is remarkably similar.

11. COLUMBELLA (ANACHIS) NIGRICOSTATA. (Plate L. fig. 6.)

Shell acuminate ovate, subturreted; beneath a thin dirty yellowish epidermis, white, with black ribs, with a series of white spots on the costæ a little above the middle of the last whorl, and with a black elongate spot or line in each of the interstices between the ribs, those towards the labrum being produced downwards to the base in a rather zigzag manner. Whorls 8, a little convex, with about 12 thin ribs on each. Body-whorl a little flattened or even concave at its broadest part; the ribs in front are produced somewhat below the middle; and on the back four or five nearest the lip are developed only a short distance from the suture, leaving the whorl below them smooth. At the base it is transversely grooved, the eight or nine ridges or liræ between the sulci being spotted with black. These spots are the continuation of the colouring of the longitudinal costæ. Aperture small, narrow, bluish white within; labrum exteriorly thickened, thin at the edge and bearing about 8 tubercles within, of which the three or four upper ones are the largest; columella sub-erect, slightly convex at the middle, covered with a thin callosity, with a free margin, through which the transverse ridges which wind round the end or cauda of the whorl appear somewhat in the form of nodules. Length $12\frac{1}{2}$ mill., diam. 6.

This species is well characterized by its coloration, the black costæ contrasting conspicuously with the pale interstices. It is considerably like *C. terpsichore*, Sowerby, in form and sculpture, but different in colour.

12. COLUMBELLA (ATILIA) PUELLA, Sowerby; Reeve, Conch. Icon. xi. sp. 65.

Hab. Philippines.

The plicæ on the back of the body-whorl are almost obsolete; but immediately behind the labrum three are well developed and situated very close together, thus forming a very strong postlabral varix. The denticulation within the aperture consists of about eight short fine liræ. The columella is coated with a thickish enamel, and is armed with about seven fine, short, transverse lirations.

13. ENGINA ASTRICATA, Reeve.

Ricimula astricta, Reeve, Conch. Icon. iii. fig. 31.

Hab. —? (*Ree*).

14. NASSA ELEGANS, Kiener; Reeve, Conch. Icon. viii. pl. 2. fig. 10 (not good); Kiener, Coq. Viv. pl. 24. fig. 97.

Hab. Indian Ocean.

15. NASSA CRENULATA, Bruguière; Reeve, Conch. Icon. sp. 2; Kiener, Coq. Viv. pl. 23. fig. 90.

Hab. Philippines.