

MALACOLOGICAL NOTES.

By E. R. SYKES, B.A., F.L.S.

1. On a three-valved *Ischnochiton*.

THE specimen now described was collected by Mrs. A. F. Kenyon in Victoria and presented by her, very recently, to the British Museum. It is preserved in spirit and measures, when contracted, 13 by 8 millim. From the external appearance it appears to belong to *I. contractus* (Rve.).

The tail-valve occupies a space rather more than equal to that taken by the head and median valves together. At the posterior end the mantle is drawn up much as in *Schizochiton*, but this may be due



Fig. 1.—Three-valved *Ischnochiton*.

to contraction, or to the fact that the tail-valve has received some injury. The middle valve has the lateral area on one side much exaggerated and divided by a radiating line. The head-valve is normal.

Specimens of Polyplacophora, having less than the normal number of valves, appear to be very scarce. Seven-valved specimens are known, indeed there is one, a *Chiton*, in the British Museum, but I have never seen one with less than this number.

2. On the occurrence of *Cryptoplax* in South Africa.

The genus *Cryptoplax*, so far as known, ranges from the Philippines to the Australian Province. The occurrence therefore at Umkomaas, in Natal, of a specimen apparently belonging to that genus, is of unusual interest. The single specimen, which was collected by Mr. Burnup, and forms part of his collection, measured when alive, apparently, about 14 millim. in length but was curled up and shrunk in drying.

The girdle shows no signs of pores but is densely clothed with small spicules, forming bunches at the sutures. The valves, partly covered by the girdle, are all in contact and have no intervening area. The head-valve is granulose, while the other valves have an almost smooth central area, and the lateral and median areas are

sculptured with bold, slightly granulose ridges, this sculpture becoming more obsolete and the ridges breaking up into granules, as we proceed from the tail to the head-valve.

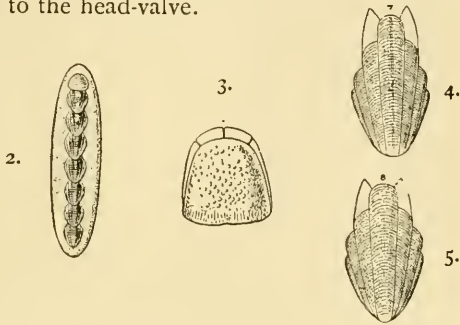


Fig. 2.—*Cryptoplax*, sp. Fig. 3.—Head-valve of same.
Figs. 4 and 5.—Seventh and eighth valve.

On comparing this species with young specimens of *C. striatus* (Lamk.), I have been unable to find specific characters sufficient to justify the description of it as distinct. Of course with only one specimen, it is by no means easy to arrive at the true specific value, but the occurrence of any specimen of the genus so far from the known habitat is of sufficient interest to be worthy of record.

Should more material come to hand, I shall hope to return to the subject.

3. Description of *Acroptychia pyramidalis*, n. sp.

Testa aperte umbilicata, pyramidata, turbinata, solidiuscula, leviter striata, (detrita) castanea, maculis albidis tessellata, linea unica inconspicue nigro-castanea cincta; anfr. $5\frac{1}{2}$, plano-convexi, ultimus turgidus; apertura subverticalis, subcircularis, supra angulum obtusum formans, peristomate incrassatulo, subreflexo.

Alt. 15; diam. max. 14, min. 11 millim.

Hab.—Madagascar. 6. 7.



Figs. 6 and 7.—*Acroptychia pyramidalis*, n. sp.

In colour pattern somewhat recalling *A. reticulata* (Ad. and Rve.), but may be severed from young specimens of that species, by the whorls being much flatter, the shell more elevated and thicker, and

the umbilicus not being so open. From *A. aequivoca* (Pfr.), which it most nearly resembles in colour, it may be separated by the size, the more elevated form, and the thickened but not reflected lip. *A. tubularis* (Morel.) is about the same size, but the shape is different and *A. pyramidalis* is not marked by the last whorl being so much drawn to one side.

The known species of *Acroptychia* appear to be as follows: *A. aequivoca* (Pfr.), 1857. (Synonym *A. manicata*, Cr. and Fisch., 1882.) *A. albocincta*, E. A. Smith, 1893. *A. metableta*, Cr. and Fisch., 1874. *A. notabilis*, E. A. Smith, 1892. *A. reticulata* (Adams and Reeve), 1848. *A. tubularis* (Morelet), 1861.

4. Description of *Clausilia granulosa*, n. sp. from Peru.

Testa magna, elongato-fusiformis, solidula, sub lente spiraliter et transverse striata, grisea, anfr. decussatuli, periostraco leviter induti. Anfr. (spec. trunc.) 6, plano-convexi, sutura impressa, ultimus deorsum angustatus, solutus, protractus, basi subrotundatus. Apert. magna, ovato-circularis; lamellæ approximatae, validæ, marginales, supera verticalis, infera subhorizontalis, subcolumellaris nulla; plica principalis valida sed curta, cum lunella arcuata angulum efformans; peristoma expansum, reflexum, solutum, albidum.

Long. 29; lat. 7.6 millim. Long. apert. 8; lat. apert. 7.6 millim.
Hab.—Peru (Dedit G. B. Sowerby).

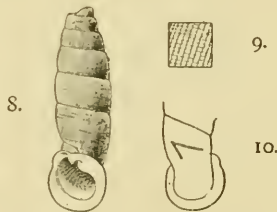


Fig. 8.—*Clausilia granulosa*, n. sp. Fig. 9.—Sculpture of same.
 Fig. 10.—Posterior view of penultimate whorl.

A single dead shell of this handsome species was presented to me some years ago by Mr. G. B. Sowerby; I have delayed describing it in the hope either that I might obtain better material, or that some other person might be in a more fortunate position.

The sculpture appears to be due to both revolving and transverse striæ, which produce a decussated appearance, the spirals becoming comparatively much weaker on the lower whorls.