

The characters which seem to place this trilobite in the genus *PARADOXUS* of Brongniart, are, its flatness, the outline of the buckler, the want of eyes, the prolongation of its costæ beyond the membrane they are imagined to support; a fact, in that author's opinion, of primary importance; the form and direction of their falcate extremities; the complete investment of the abdomen by the costæ; the relative sizes of the lobes of the abdomen; and finally, the serrated membranous fringe surrounding its lower parts.

The specific distinctions are chiefly found in the shape; in the tubercles and striæ of the cutis; the form of the front;* the gentleness of the recurvature of the costæ, and in the form of the lower end of the middle lobe of the abdomen.

*On a new Species of MODIOLA. By THOMAS SAY.
Read April 19, 1825.*

Amongst a number of marine shells from the island of Minorca, presented to the Academy by Dr. Alexander Montgomery of the U. S. Navy, is a single valve of the *PECTEN nodosus*, Linn. on which were several elevations that on a cursory glance presented an appearance not unlike the

* Very undefined in this individual.

BALANUS. On a more particular inspection each elevation proved to be similar to the others in form and consistence, and to be composed of fine dark coloured sand, agglutinated together, attached by a broad base to the surface of the Pecten, and rising in the shape of a very low cone around an included shell, the visible portion of which is exactly cordate. Having carefully detached the mass, I found the imbedded shell to be a *MODIOLA*, closely allied to the *discors*, Gmel. with its byssus very firmly affixed to the supporting surface.

The following is a description of this shell.

MODIOLA.

M. opifex. Oval, reddish-brown; anterior hinge-margin flattened, cordate; within iridescent.

Base contracted behind the middle, the contraction not wide nor very deep; between this part and the beaks the surface is blackish and transversely wrinkled; posterior and anterior surface of the valve longitudinally striated, with the exception of the anterior cordate hinge-margin, which is flattened and covered by a thick stratum of compact sand; anterior tip equally arcuated above and below; within iridescent, brilliant, striated as on the exterior surface, edge crenate.

Breadth nearly half an inch; length more than one-fifth of an inch.

This species differs from the *M. discors*, and

M. lateralis, Nob. not only by its very singular habit, but also by its flat and perfectly heart-shaped anterior margin; the regular and equal curvature of its anterior extremity; the narrower interval between the anterior and posterior striated surfaces, and the more profound and less dilated basal contraction.

PL. xix. fig. 2. *M. opifex* imbedded in its mound.

a. External view of a valve.

b. Internal view of do. (all enlarged.)

Descriptions of ten Species of South American Birds. By CHARLES BONAPARTE. Read April 19, 1825.

Having been favoured by Mr. Paul Goddard with a collection of South American birds, lately brought to this country, I remarked some very rare species, on which a few observations may be elucidatory of some obscure points of Ornithology; I therefore submit them to the Academy for their Journal.

I. *MONASA fusca*, Nob.

Fusco-brunnea, scapis pennarum flavescentibus; remigibus rectricibusque immaculatis; juguli macula alba; fascia pectorali nigra.



