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

<sup>\*</sup> 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 hingemargin 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 vol. 1V.—MAY, 1825.

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.

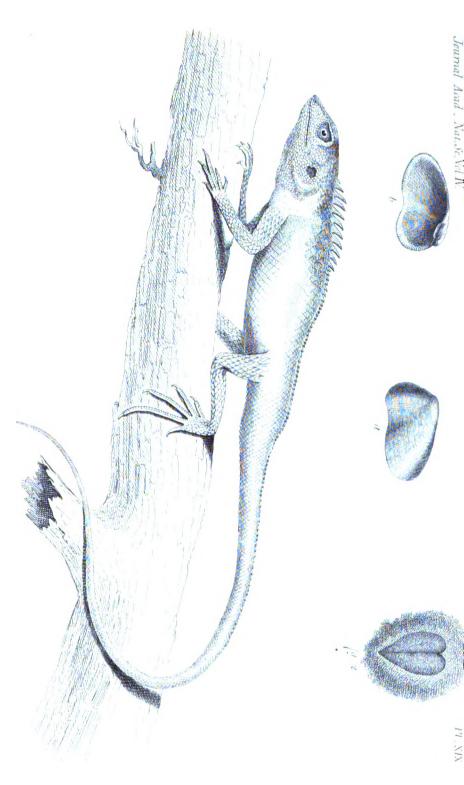
b. Internal view of do. (all enlarged.)

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.

## 1. Monasa fusca, Nob.

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



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