

Distant, 1889

on computer

Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (6) 3(15): 271-272

Mr. W. L. Distant on the Genus *Plisthenes*. 271

Parasitic Mollusca.

Genus of Parasitic Mollusca.
L. SMITH.

Museum purchased of Mr. [unclear] other specimens, a single [unclear] to his statement, appears [unclear] *Echinus*." This specimen [unclear] any known genus of parasitic

may be truly said to be para-

Echini or in the skin or tegu-
les of *Eulima* are found in
the curious *Entoconcha*. Sty-
turidæ.

The mollusk *Cochliolepis para-*
scales of an Annelid (*Acoetes*
are found only upon *Gor-*
ists the rays of starfish; one
said to occur on *Pecten*; the
upon corals &c.; and the
Utila, *Cryptobia*, *Leptoconcha*,
d in or upon corals, but to
ed as truly parasitic has not
male of *Lamellaria perspicua*
compound Ascidian (*Lepto-*
res are known to be parasitic.
upon a sea-urchin (*Hemiaster*
tacuta is "invariably found
angus purpureus and other
l." *Modiolaria marmorata*
ans, and the genera *Vulsella*
Pedum and *Tridacna* and
ur in corals; but these can
orms. The glochidium-stage
obtaining nourishment from
attached.

tion bears only a general
ose which I have mentioned,
*. As its conditions of life
bt but that it is generically
ropose to describe it as such
Its systematic position is

ist. 1888, vol. vi. p. 308, woodcut.

very doubtful at present, the animal being unknown. A small dried portion of it was attached to the shell, but no odontophore could be discovered in it. Some minute, glassy, grain-like objects adhering to it proved on examination under the microscope to be minute shells and doubtless the young of this species; there is therefore every reason to believe that it is viviparous.

The genus and species may be described thus:—

ROBILLARDIA.

Animal parasiticum, *Echinus* incolens, viviparum. Testa vitrea, depresso heliiformis; spira brevis; apertura lunata, magna; peristoma simplex, tenue.

Robillardia cernica *.



Testa tenuis, pellucida, vitrea, nitens, imperforata, depresso globosa; anfractus 5 celeriter crescentes, lirulis sulcisque levibus spiralibus striisque incrementi arcuatis sculpti, convexi, sutura canaliculata sejuncti; ultimus magnus, ad peripheriam rotundatus, inferne concentricè leviter liratus et scrobiculatus, in regione umbilici plus minus tenuiter callosus; apertura lunata; peristoma tenue, margine inferiore recedente, columellari supra leviter expanso.

Diam. maj. 8 mm., min. 6½; alt. 5.

Hab: Mauritius.

This delicate shell has the glassy texture of *Carinaria* and somewhat the form of certain species of *Hyalinia*.



XXVIII.—Synopsis of the Rhynchotal Genus *Plisthenes*. By W. L. DISTANT.

THIS genus of Tesseratominæ, founded by Stål in 1864, is liable by the large size and general resemblance of its representatives with their almost common area of distribution to have its different species unrecognized. This was absolutely the case with Stål, who, in enumerating the genus (En. Hem. i. p. 63), included the second species, *P. dilatatus*, Montr., more fully redescribed by Vollenhoven, as a synonym of *P. Merianæ*, Fabr. I was subsequently (Trans. Ent. Soc. 1880,

* From "Cerne," an old name of the island of Mauritius.

19*

Notice: This material may be protected by copyright law. (Title 17, U.S. Code)

p. 151), by the acquisition of specimens, enabled to structurally and otherwise separate these two species, and am now, by the possession of three examples from South-west New Guinea, received through Mr. E. P. Collett from Mr. J. C. Melville, in a position to add a third species to the genus. The following is a rough synopsis of the same:—

- Scutellum unicolorous and with the lateral margins straight and not distinctly sinuate near apex.
- Sternal spine not reaching anterior coxæ.
- Antennæ with the second joint considerably shorter than the third.
- Abdomen beneath with a central, longitudinal piceous fascia *P. Merianæ*. ✓
- Sternal spine reaching anterior coxæ.
- Antennæ with the second joint very little shorter than the third.
- Abdomen beneath with a central and two sub-marginal piceous fasciæ *P. dilatatus*. ✓
- Scutellum with the apex ochraceous and with the lateral margins distinctly sinuate near apex. *P. scutellatus*. ✓

Plisthenes scutellatus, n. sp.

Allied to *P. dilatatus*, but differing by having the lateral margins of the scutellum distinctly sinuate near apex, which is broadly ochraceous, with the tip black. The second and third joints of the antennæ are almost subequal in length, and the apex of the third joint is ochraceous (fourth joint mutilated). The sternal spine about reaches the anterior coxæ, as in *P. dilatatus*.

Long. 28 to 33 millim.
Hab. South-west New Guinea (*J. C. Melville*).

The three species vary very much in the size of their representatives, and *P. Merianæ* in the colour of the antennæ, which in typical examples have only the last joint ochraceous, whilst in some Australian specimens, as pointed out by Stål, and in some from Murray Island, as already described by myself, both the third and fourth joints are ochraceous.

The following are the localities of the specimens in my own collection:—

- ✓ *P. Merianæ*, Fabr.—Amboina, Torres Straits, Port Moresby, Murray Island.
- ✓ *P. dilatatus*, Montr.—Port Moresby, Celebes.
- ✓ *P. scutellatus*, Dist.—South-west New Guinea.

XXIX.—
Position
 By Dr.

Dr
 IN the Ja
 establishe
 Owen.
 The cl
 deep groo
 is said to
 At first
 ossificati
 is not.
 Such
 united h
 fact alor
 This gro
 is gener
 even on
 simply i
 ever. I
 of *Aspic*
 loped.
 Trionyc
 The g
 to recog
 In th
 and nan
 and a x
 the *Anc*
 in Prof.
 Tertiari
 It sec
 of anot
 In th
 that *A*
 * Lyd.
 & Mag. I
 † Cop
 Green R
 Jan. 187
 † Cop
 West, B
 figs. 18, 1
 § Bau
 & Mag. I