

ON THE GENERIC NAME OF A REMARKABLE BIVALVE SHELL FOUND IN THE CONGO.

BY C. F. ANCEY.

In the "Bulletins de la Société Malacologique de France" for 1886, Dr. A. Trémeau de Rochebrune proposed the generic name of *Chelidonura* for the curious species of Iridinidæ described by Dr. Ed. von Martens, under the name of *Iridina* (*Mutela*) *hirundo*, from specimens collected by Mr. Mechow in the Quango, a stream tributary to the Congo. Subsequently, a second species was found in the last named river and described by Dr. de Rochebrune, who then proposed for these shells, which are certainly different from any genus of Iridinidæ, the said name of *Chelidonura*. Unfortunately *Chelidonura* has already been used by M. Adams for a shell of the family Bullidæ, and *Chelidonura*, Rochebrune (non Adams), must therefore be changed to *Chelidonopsis*, Ancey.

The genus *Burtonia*, Bourg. (1883) proposed for different species of Lake Tanganyika, Central Africa, is certainly nearer to *Chelidonopsis* than any other section in Iridinidæ, but they want the dorsal carina and the very curious appendage of the posterior edge of the valves. The true *Mutela* are quite different in shape.

The analogy of several species inhabiting the countries and streams of West Africa and Lake Tanganyika, is not to be wondered at, for the latter belongs to the basin of the Atlantic and *not* of the Indian Ocean, and being (during part of the year), connected with some of the headwaters of the Congo.

Berrouaghia, Algeria, June 11, 1887.

DESCRIPTION OF NEW GENERA OR SUB-GENERA OF HELICIDÆ.

BY C. F. ANCEY.

(Continued.)

XXII — *Brazieria*, Anc.

"Testa fere staturæ *Helicis* constrictæ, Bou-
"bée, lentiformis depressa, imperforata, stria-
"tula, solidiuscula, flavido-corneola; *Spira* valde

"depressa, vix convexa. Anfractus 5 planulati,
"sutura lineari divisi; ultimus supra depressus
"et acute angulatus, infra multo magis convex-
"ior, turgidus. Apertura obliqua, angulata,
"lunata, infra convexa, substricta. Peristoma
"intus labiato incrassatum, margines lamina
"elevata juncti."

Type: *Helix velata*, Hombron et Jacy.

Geogr. distrib.: Caroline Islands.

This peculiar type of *Naninidæ* possesses ambiguous characters, and the typical species was placed by Pease, in *Trochomorpha*, a genus which it appears to me not to belong to.

XXIII.—*Chalepotaxis*, Anc.

"Testa characteribus anatomicis peculiaribus
"a Cl. Gredler in diagnosi *Naninæ* (?) infantilis
"enumeratis prædita. Testa umbilicata, albido-
"hyalina, fascia unica ultimi anfractus cincta.
"Spira convexo-conica, apice obtusa; anfractus
"regulariter crescentes; ultimus major, rotun-
"datus, subtus convexus, antice non deflexus;
"apertura haud labiata; peristoma simplex,
"acutum, sinuatum."

Type: *Nanina* (?) infantilis, Gredler.

Geogr. distrib.: Central China: Tonkin.

XXIV.—*Oligospira*, Anc.

"Testa ejusdem insulæ *Acavos* commemorans,
"a quibus ultimo anfractus valde tumido, am-
"bitu oblongo et rotundato et anfractibus cœ-
"teris multo minus numerosis, celerius crescen-
"tibus et spira depressa, vix elevata nec conica
"discrepat. Anfr. ultimus antice perdeflexus."

Types: H. Waltoni, Reeve; H. Skinneri, Reeve.

Geogr. distrib.: Ceylon.

XXV.—*Crystalloopsis*, Anc.

"Testa inter *Papuinas* et *Geotrochos*,—et
"Corasias quasi media, tenuis, alabastrina vel
"hyalina, vel fasciis opacis cincta, umbilicata,
"globosa, tenuis, glabra, angulata vel filocincta.
"Spira convexa, vel convexo-conica, obtusa;
"anfractus minus numerosi; ultimus maximus,

"subtus convexus, turgidus. Apertura sub-obliqua ampla; peristoma late expansum vel reflexum, ad columellam late dilatatum, umbilicum tamen plerumque non obtectans."

Types: H. Hunteri, Cox; H. Allasteri, Cox, etc.

Geog. distrib.: Solomon's Islands (Guadalcanar, Malanta Islands).

XXVI.—*Sphincterochila*, Anc.

"Testa superne speciebus pluribus generis Leucochroæ similis, a quo valde differt singulari apertura constricta, sinuata incranataque, intus interdum hepatica et animali characteribus, teste G. W. Binney, animali Helicis similis. Prope Macularias verisimiliter collo-canda."

Types: H. filia, Mouss.; H. Boissieri, Charp.

Geog. distribution: As far as known, restricted to the vicinity of the Dead Sea, and to N. Arabia.

To be Continued.

Young Collectors' Corner

The *Succinea Obliqua*, Say, of Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, with some remarks regarding the relationship of *Succinea Totteniana*, Lea.

BY JOHN FORD.

For a number of years I failed to discover in the Park a single specimen of the genus *Succinea*, though many examinations were made by me in localities favorable to their growth. Mentioning this fact to G. Howard Parker, then an active worker in the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, he informed me that a few might be obtained along a rocky ledge on the north side of the Wissahickon, a short distance east

of Ridge Avenue. Some days afterward we visited the locality together, and secured about a dozen specimens all in fair condition. One year later, in company with Dr. J. Bernard Brinton, I visited the place again and captured several more. This was in the morning of a hot June day in 1886, which we mostly spent along the upper reaches of the stream. On returning, towards evening, we wandered into the dry bed of a former pond located between the carriage way and the stream, and within a "stone's throw" of the lower dam. This depression was, perhaps, fifty feet square; with several large willows standing upon the outer bank, and a strong growth of weeds covering the bottom.

While looking for other species supposed to be there, our attention was attracted to numbers of *Succinea* feeding upon the plants, and also upon the willow branches which extended some twenty feet over the basin. Though somewhat surprised to find them in such singular quarters we went quickly to work and secured a large number before night-fall. Many others were obtained a few days afterward by the Doctor's son, Theodore, and a short time later fully a hundred more fell to my share; making in all, over 200 specimens, a wonderful number to be found in so small an area.

All of the shells were transparent, and so delicate in texture that I at first entertained some doubts in regard to the species; this feeling of uncertainty being strengthened by the fact that Professor Gabb does not mention *S. obliqua* at all in his "Catalogue of the Mollusca in the neighborhood of Philadelphia," published in Vol. 13, Proceedings Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences. A subsequent examination, however, satisfied Mr. Tryon as well as myself that they were really *Succinea obliqua*, Say. But, in opposition to Mr. Tryon's views, I was and still am of the opinion that they embrace every character claimed for *Succinea Totteniana*, Lea, save the occasional greenish tint, and that no further evidence than the shells themselves is needed to prove *Succinea obliqua*, Say, and *Succinea Totteniana*, Lea, to be one and the same species; allied so closely indeed, that, the latter cannot in a general sense, be justly separated from the former, even as a variety.



Ancey, C. F. 1887. "Description of new genera or sub-genera of Helicidæ (continued)." *The Conchologists' exchange* 2, 22-23.

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