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A NEW CRINOID FROM NEW ZEALAND, AND AN-
OTHER FROM TASMANIA.

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The development of the crinoid fauna of the waters about New Zealand and Tasmania has been singularly slow, for it is not yet seven years since the first crinoid was recorded from Tasmania, and only a little over a year since the first New Zealand species was described.

At present the following forms are known from these two localities :

NEW ZEALAND.

Comanthus benhami A. H. Clark.

(Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, vol. **29**, Feb. 29, 1916, p. 48.)

Comanthus novæzealandiæ, sp. nov.

Argyrometra mortenseni A. H. Clark.

(Journ. Washington Acad. Sci., vol. **7**, No. 5, March 4, 1917, p. 129.)

TASMANIA.

Comanthus tasmaniæ, sp. nov.

(*Comanthus trichoptera* [part] A. H. Clark, Mem. Austr. Mus., vol. **4**, part 15, Aug. 17, 1911, p. 755.—*Comanthus spanoschistum* [part] H. L. Clark, Biol. Results Fishing Exper. F. I. S. *Endeavour*, 1909-14, June 2, 1916, p. 17 [Maria Island, Tasmania; Bass Strait].)

Comanthus plectrophorum H. L. Clark.

(Biol. Results Fishing Exper. F. I. S. *Endeavour*, 1909-14, June 2, 1916, p. 15 [Bass Strait].)

Comissia spanoschistum (H. L. Clark).

(*Comanthus spanoschistum* [part] H. L. Clark, Biol. Results Fishing Exper. F. I. S. *Endeavour*, 1909-14, p. 17 [Maria Island, Tasmania; Bass Strait].)

Austrometra thetidis (H. L. Clark).

(Biol. Results Fishing Exper. F. I. S. *Endeavour*, 1909-14, p. 22 [Bass Strait].)

Ptilometra macronema (J. Müller).

(H. L. Clark, Biol. Results Fishing Exper. F. I. S. *Endeavour*, 1909-14, p. 23 [Bass Strait].)

Cosmiometra dasybrachia H. L. Clark.

(Biol. Results Fishing Exper. F. I. S. *Endeavour*, 1909-14, p. 24 [Bass Strait].)

Compsometra incommoda (Bell).

(H. L. Clark. Biol. Results Fishing Exper. F. I. S. *Endeavour*, 1909-14, p. 25 [Flinders Island].)

Metacrinus cyaneus H. L. Clark.

(Biol. Results Fishing Exper. F. I. S. *Endeavour*, 1909-14, p. 9 [Bass Strait].)

***Comanthus tasmaniae*, sp. nov.**

Description.—The centrodorsal is discoidal, rounded pentagonal in outline, extremely thin, 4 mm. in diameter; the cirri are arranged in a single incomplete and more or less irregular marginal row.

The cirri are XX, 14-16, slender, 10 mm. long; the first segment is broader than long, the second is as long as, or slightly longer than, broad, the third is twice as long as broad, the three following about two and one-half times as long as broad, and their successors rapidly become shorter so that the terminal eight are broader than long; these last are somewhat compressed laterally and in lateral view appear slightly broader than those preceding; with the one or two preceding they each bear a small pointed subterminal tubercle.

The arms are 37 in number, 65 mm. long, and resemble those of *C. trichoptera*; the distal edges of the ossicles of the division series and of the brachials (especially the latter) are strongly everted and finely spinous.

Habitat.—Tasmania; I have examined two specimens, one in the collection of the Australian Museum at Sydney, the other in the collection of the U. S. National Museum (No. 34976).

Remarks.—This species probably includes the multibrachiate examples listed under Dr. H. L. Clark's new species *Comanthus spanoschistum* from Bass Strait and Tasmania. The ten armed specimens, which Dr. Clark especially had in mind when he wrote the description, appear to belong not to *Comanthus*, but to *Comissia*, for the lower pinnules as described agree with those of *Comissia*. Dr. Clark notes the "absence of the peculiar axillaries characteristic of" *Comanthus trichoptera*, and states that "many of the specimens, even the small ones, have the genital pinnules immensely swollen with the reproductive cells."

***Comanthus novaezealandiae*, sp. nov.**

Description.—The centrodorsal is discoidal, irregularly circular in outline, broad, flat and very thin, 5 mm. in diameter; the cirri are arranged in a single irregular and unequally developed marginal row.

The cirri are XIII+, 17, rather slender, 10 mm. to 11 mm. long; the first segment is very short, the second twice as broad as long, the

third from one-quarter to one-third again as broad as long, the fourth about half again as long as broad, the fifth about twice as long as broad, and the sixth nearly as long; the following rapidly decrease in length so that the last seven are broader than long; these are somewhat compressed laterally and therefore broader in lateral view than the preceding; from the fourth onward the distal dorsal border is thickened, this thickening becoming gradually narrower and more prominent in the central portion so that on the last two or three before the penultimate it resolves itself into a low sharp subterminal tubercle; the opposing spine has a transversely broadened chisel like edge.

There are 20 arms, in the specimen at hand all broken off at the base. The distal edges of the ossicles of the division series and of the brachials are very slightly prominent, and are bordered with very fine spines.

Habitat.—Three Kings Island, New Zealand. Dredged on hard bottom in 65 fathoms by Dr. Th. Mortensen, January 5, 1915.

Remarks.—This species differs from *C. tasmaniae*, to which it appears to be most closely related, in having fewer arms, in the lesser length of the earlier elongated cirrus segments, and in the swollen distal borders of the earlier cirrus segments, the distal border of the first seven cirrus segments in *C. tasmaniae* being quite unmodified.

It is easily distinguished from *C. benhami*, from Preservation Inlet, New Zealand, by the fewer arms, the much shorter cirri, and the fewer cirrus segments.

As we know them at the present time the status of the forms related to *C. trichoptera* is very uncertain. Much more material, especially from Tasmania and New Zealand, is needed to clear up the situation.



Clark, Austin Hobart. 1918. "A new crinoid from New Zealand, and another from Tasmania." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 31, 41-44.

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