

The shell is differentiated from *U. coruscus* by being smaller ; by its parallel outline ; by its posterior point being lower and more biangular. In proportion to size, it is heavier in texture, and when perfect shells of both are compared, it is *not so shining* as is *coruscus*. The squarely built anterior end is a character common to a number of Florida *Uniones*.

The habitat is Reedy Lake, Polk Co., Florida, in the Gulf drainage. Specimens in cabinets of Mr. Bryant Walker, of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, and in my own.

A plate illustrating the type of *U. coruscus* Gld. and this species will appear in the next number.

NOTE ON THAIS (PURPURA).

BY MRS. M. BURTON WILLIAMSON.

Having recently received a fine series of American *Thais* or *Purpura* from Mr. Henry Hemphill, the well-known student of variation in shells, it occurred to me that his notes on these shells would be of interest to the readers of the NAUTILUS. The shells, comprising over fifty varieties of form, sculpturing, color, etc., were collected by Mr. Hemphill on the coast of Maine, Puget Sound, Washington, Oregon and California.

As the earlier readers of the NAUTILUS are aware, Mr. Hemphill takes one species as the type of a group, and around this type he places other species as types of varieties.

Many years ago P. P. Carpenter and George W. Tryon¹ noted the strong resemblance between *Purpura lapillus* L. of the eastern coast of North America, and *P. saxicola* Val. of the Pacific shore. Mr. Hemphill, while agreeing with them, would group our west coast species around *P. lapillus* L. as the progenitor of the whole series. He compares shells he collected on the coast of Maine with *P. saxicola* of the west coast, and a tray of these shells are, as he says, "almost identical in every respect with Tomales Bay, California, specimens." These selected specimens are puzzling indeed when we consider the geographical area from which they were collected.

¹ Manual of Conchology, Vol. II.

Mr. Hemphill's conclusions, as shown in the study collection received from him, would be, in the grouping of the west coast *Thais*, as follows: *Purpura lapillus* L.; var. *ostrina* Gld., *P. var. emarginata* Desh., *P. var. saxicola* Val., *P. var. lima* Mart., *P. var. septentrionalis* Rve., and *P. var. crispata* Rve. Variations, globose, banded, etc., and color-variations very naturally are grouped under each named variety, and present a series of variations typical of the painstaking that has always been accorded this veteran conchologist of the Californian coast.

FURTHER NOTES ON ASIATIC VIVIPARAS IN CALIFORNIA.

BY HAROLD HANNIBAL.

In THE NAUTILUS, V, 1892, p. 114 and VI, 1892, p. 51, W. M. Wood reported *Paludina japonica* from the Chinese markets of San Francisco. The writer has had an opportunity to examine some of these specimens in the collection of W. S. Raymond, and they prove to be *Viviparus malleatus* Rve., having been compared with *malleatus* received under that name from Frederick Stearns at a time when the Japanese Viviparas were less known than at present. Stearns (NAUTILUS, XV, 1901, p. 91) reported *V. stelmaphora* (= *malleatus*) sent by Mrs. A. E. Bush, a shell enthusiast now dead, "from seven or eight miles from San José" (probably in the Artesian Belt), and "a little valley at the foot of Mount Hamilton." The latter locality is probably erroneous; it has not been verified, and the specimens seem to have passed through several hands. In 1908, the writer (NAUTILUS, XXII, p. 33) noted *V. lecythoides* from the Artesian Belt between San José and San Francisco Bay. Comparison with specimens from Nagasaki, Japan, proves this also to be *malleatus*, and it is figured under that name in the 1910 edition of West American Shells, Pl. iii, fig. 8.

It is abundant at a number of points in the Artesian Belt since this was at one time an extensive berry district where celestials were employed. The species was brought from Yokohama and originally planted between Alameda and Centerville to supply the markets about San Francisco Bay where they bring 20 cents a dozen according to Wong, a Chinese merchant, whence colonies have been dis-



Williamson, Martha Burton Woodhead. 1911. "Note on Thais (Purpura)." *The Nautilus* 25, 30–31.

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