

observations on the habits of *Melongena corona* on the Floridan coast. This mollusk is very destructive to oyster beds. It does not bore the shell, but inserts its proboscis between the valves. The speaker stated that the *Melongena* is preyed upon by *Fasciolaria gigantea*.

THE COLORADO BIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, Department of Mollusca. The number of recent Mollusca hitherto known to exist in Colorado is 59; we are now able to add three species, bringing the total to 62. (1.) *Pupa* (*Angustula*) *miliu*m Gould. Rejectamenta of Muddy Creek, Kremmling, Grand Co. An example sent to the U. S. National Museum has been kindly reported on by Mr. R. E. C. Stearns. "The *Pupa* may be regarded as a western (high) elevated-station form of *P. miliu*m, larger than eastern specimens." (2.) *Sphaerium striatinum* Lam. Abundant in the rejectamenta of Muddy Creek, Kremmling, Grand Co. (3.) *Physa gyrina* Say. A single dead shell of elongated form, found in a lake near Squaw Creek, Eagle Co., is referred to a form of this species. *P. gyrina* was to be expected in Colo. although it is generally replaced in this region by *P. heterostropha*, a condition of things opposite to that obtaining in some eastern localities. An *Ancylus* from the rejectamenta of Muddy Creek, Kremmling, Grand Co., a dead shell, is thought by Mr. Stearns to be probably *Ancylus caurinus* Cooper. Should this be confirmed by the discovery of living examples, it is an addition to the State fauna.

Patula cooperi var. *minor* Ckll. is found to occur in great numbers near Egeria, Routt Co., where it is the prevalent form of the species. This variety has not been noticed in Colorado.

A detailed list of the Mollusca of Colorado is in course of preparation, and it is hoped that all those who have any information bearing upon the subject will kindly afford their assistance.

T. D. A. Cockerell, (Secretary.)

West Cliff, Custer Co., Colorado, May 13, 1889.

THE SHELL-BEARING MOLLUSCA OF RHODE ISLAND.

BY HORACE F. CARPENTER.

171.—*Sphaerium rhomboideum* Say.

This elegant little species was described by Say in 1822, under the name of *Cyclas rhomboidea*, at the same time with the preceding

species. It has been known to conchologists generally as *Cyclas elegans* C. B. Adams, but Mr. Prime, after long and careful investigation, finds it to answer every requirement of Say's rhomboidea, and he is now followed by nearly all authorities in calling it by the above name.

S. rhomboideum is a much smaller, though stouter, shell than *partumeium*; tumid subglobular; beaks not prominent; both ends of the shell truncate, so as to give it a rhomboidal appearance; interior of valves bluish, exterior olive-green and straw-colored margins; hinge strong; cardinal teeth rudimentary, lateral teeth large and strong; surface elegantly marked with concentric ridges. Length, $\frac{1}{2}$, height, 7-20, breadth, 11-40 inch.

It inhabits New England and Canada along the northern tier of States to Michigan. It is extremely local in habitat, and up to 1851 was considered a very rare shell. At this time Mr. Whittemore found it quite abundantly near Cambridge, Mass. In the depression near Hammond's Pond, in Pawtucket, where the *Planorbis jenksii* was discovered, can be seen in Spring millions of *rhomboideum*, adhering to stems of aquatic plants and on the dead leaves, while under the leaves at the bottom of the pool, in mud, are obtained the largest and most perfect specimens of *partumeium* I have ever seen.

172.—*Sphærium securis* Prime.

Shell small, rhomboidal, acutely rounded in front; posterior margin abrupt, forming an obtuse angle with the hinge margin; beaks elevated, large, nearly central; approximate at the apex; valves thin; striæ very delicate, hardly perceptible without a lens; epidermis variable in color, from greenish-horn to brilliant yellow or straw; cardinal teeth very small; lateral teeth elongated. Length, 37-100, height, 31-100, breadth, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. Animal pink, with siphons of the same color, causing the shells to appear pinkish while the animal is inclosed within them.

Inhabits the same range of country as *rhomboideum*. The only locality in Rhode Island that I have seen is just below Pontiac in the Pawtucket River, under stones at the edge of the water. Some years ago I described a shell found in Tyonge Reservoir, under the name of *Sphærium deformis*, a shell somewhat larger than typical specimens of *securis*, with a brownish epidermis, and a distorted twist in each valve; every specimen found in this place was deformed precisely alike, but on submitting them to Mr. Prime, he pronounced them to be only a local variety of *securis*.

S. securis was described by Temple Prime in the Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist., x, 160, 1851.

(*To be continued.*)

BRIEF NOTES ON THE LAND AND FRESH-WATER SHELLS OF MERCER COUNTY, ILL.

BY WILLIAM A. MARSH.

97.—*Planorbis lentus?* *trivolis* var. *fallax* Haldeman.

This shell seems to be quite distinct from *P. trivolis*, and at present I am unable to decide on its case. That eminent conchologist, Dr. James Lewis, identified it as the true *Planorbis lentus* of Say, and until within a few years I have always given it out in exchange with that name. I find a great difference of opinion among our best conchologists relative to this shell, some considering it *trivolis*, others Mr. Haldeman's var. *fallax*, and others regard it as *lentus* Say, while still others regard it *P. glabratus*. It is our most common *Planorbis*, and is very abundant in the sloughs and lakes of the Mississippi River. It is often found associated with *trivolis*, but may easily be distinguished from that shell by its smoother and more shiny surface, finer striæ, darker color, in having the labrum less prominent above, in having one or more turns in its volutions, in being rounded above and below, and in being more depressed.

98.—*Planorbis* (*Helisoma*) *bicarinatus* Say.

Shell pale yellow or brownish, subcarinate above and beneath, translucent, spire sunken, umbilicate, forming a cavity as deep as the base; aperture large and much vaulted above, within reddish-brown; whorls three, wrinkled, and with minute revolving lines. This species has also a very wide distribution, ranging from British America to Kansas. It is found here only in the lakes of the Bay Island, in the river and river sloughs.

99.—*Planorbis* (*Menetus*) *exacutus* Say.

Shell depressed, light horn color, often almost white, with four flattened whorls. Sides obliquely descending to an acute lateral edge below the middle; spire not impressed; aperture transversely triangular, labrum angulated in the middle, arcuated near its inferior tip, the superior termination just including the acute edge of the penultimate whorl. This fine shell is found around the margins of



Carpenter, Horace F. 1889. "The shell-bearing Mollusca of Rhode Island (continued)." *The Nautilus* 3, 21–23.

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