

ON SOME MOLLUSCA FROM BERING SEA, WITH DESCRIPTIONS  
OF TWO NEW SPECIES OF TROCHIDÆ.

By EDGAR A. SMITH, F.Z.S., etc.

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THE specimens here described were collected at the Commander Islands in 1896 by Mr. G. E. H. Barrett-Hamilton, who, with Professor D'Arcy Thompson, had been instructed by the Government to investigate the natural history of the Northern Fur-Seal, at the fur-seal islands of the North Pacific. Some account of the Mollusca of these islands, which are situated in the Bering Sea, has been given by Dr. W. H. Dall.<sup>1</sup> Although Mr. Barrett-Hamilton collected but five species of Mollusca, it is curious to find that only one of these appears in Dr. Dall's list, viz., *Valvatella Beringensis*, which he catalogues as a form of *Margarita helicina*, but this, for reasons hereafter given, is, I think, sufficiently distinct to be entitled to specific rank. In using the generic name *Valvatella* in preference to *Margarita*, I follow the course adopted by Mr. Melvill in his presidential address to the Conchological Society in 1896.<sup>2</sup> Dall and Pilsbry, on the other hand, prefer the use of *Margarita*, because, although a synonym, it had been commonly in use for many years.<sup>3</sup> The whole question of the employment of such names rests upon the application of the rules of nomenclature being made retrospective or not. For my own part I think the former the best course to adopt; for, although it may cause temporary inconvenience, such alterations soon become established, especially when incorporated in some recognized manual. Many of the Lamarekian names, for instance, universally employed during the first half of the present century—e.g., *Ricinula*, *Ancillaria*, *Cassidaria*, *Navicella*, *Rotella*, *Tornatella*, *Aspergillum*, etc., etc.—have now disappeared from recognized nomenclature, and it will be the same with others, such as *Margarita*, the one in question, if the alterations pointed out are noted and followed. The species in the present collection are:—

1. OMMATOSTREPES, sp.

A small species about two inches in length.

<sup>1</sup> Proc. U.S. National Museum, vol. vii (1884), pp. 340-349; vol. ix (1886), pp. 209-219.

<sup>2</sup> Journ. Conch., vol. vii, p. 472.

<sup>3</sup> Bearing this in mind, it is somewhat surprising to find that Mr. Pilsbry has made use of the name *Tethys* for the sea-hares, instead of the generally accepted term *Aplysia* (Man. Conch., ser. i, vol. xvi, p. 65).

## 2. COLUMBELLA (ASTYRIS ?) ROSACEA, Gould.

*Columbella rosacea*, Gould : Invert. Massachusetts, 2nd ed., p. 357, fig. 627; Tryon, Man. Conch., ser. i, vol. v, p. 160, pl. lvi, fig. 78; Sars, Moll. Reg. Arct. Norveg., p. 251, pl. xvi, fig. 1 (*Pyrene rosacea*).

*Mangelia Holböllii* (Beck), Möller : Nat. Tidskrift, Bd. vi (1842), p. 85.

*Pleurotoma viridula*, Reeve : Conch. Icon., vol. i, fig. 306 (non Möller).

*Hab.*—Norway, Spitzbergen, Greenland, east coast of United States.

A single specimen only, but interesting as proving a much wider range for this species than previously known.

## 3. VALVATELLA BERINGENSIS, n.sp. Fig. I.

Testa anguste umbilicata, depressa, olivaceo-lilacea vel pallide rufo-lilacea, nitida, lineis incrementi obliquis curvatis sculpta; spira brevis, ad apicem nigrescens; anfractus 5, celeriter accrescentes, perconvexi, sutura profunda sejuncti, ultimus magnus, paulo dilatatus, antice leviter descendens; apertura pulcherrime iridescens, subrotundata; peristoma haud continuum, margine externo tenui, columellari incrassato, albo, reflexo. Diam. maj. 11, min. 8.5 mm.; alt. 8 mm.

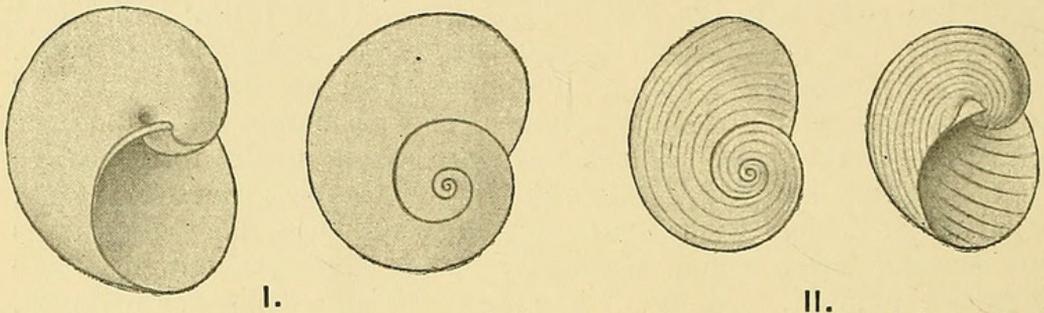


FIG. I. *Valvatella Beringensis*, n.sp.  
,, II. ——— *albolineata*, n.sp.

This species is closely allied to *V. helicina* (Fabr.), from Northern seas, and, indeed, might be regarded as a large variety of it. It is, however, very much larger, more solid, with a thicker superficial layer of carbonate of lime and more distinct lines of growth. The white and more thickened columellar margin is another distinguishing feature, the aperture is larger and more patulate, the lower surface of the body-whorl has only the faintest indication of concentric striæ, and the umbilicus is slightly more contracted.

## 4. VALVATELLA ALBOLINEATA, n.sp. Fig. II.

Testa depressa, suborbicula, imperforata, rosacea, lineis albis filiformibus volventibus numerosis picta, tenuis, nitida; spira brevis; anfractus 5, celeriter accrescentes, convexi, lineis incrementi obliquis

tenuissimis indistincte striati; apertura magna, rotundata, intus pulcherrime iridescens; peristoma tenue, margine columellari albo incrassato reflexo, umbilicum quasi obtegente. Diam. maj. 8, min. 6 mm.; alt. 4.5 mm.

Readily distinguishable by its style of coloration and imperforate base. In form very like *V. Beringensis*. Although this shell is imperforate in the adult state, it scarcely falls into *Photinula*, the character of the umbilical callus in that genus being rather different. Young examples of the present species are narrowly umbilicated.

5. *ACMÆA SYBARITICA* (Dall).

*Collisella* (?) *sybaritica*, Dall: Amer. Journ. Conch., vol. vi, p. 257, pl. xvii, fig. 34; Pilsbry, Man. Conch., ser. I, vol. xiii, p. 22, pl. ix, figs. 22-4 (*Acmaea*).

*Hab.*—Prybiloff Is., Aleutian Is., Japan.

A single specimen from Copper Island is apparently a variety of this species. It lacks the radiating colour-markings.

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