

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF *VALLONIA* FROM
SOUTH INDIA.

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Read 12th April, 1907.

Two specimens of an undescribed form of *Vallonia* were obligingly handed to me for description by Colonel R. H. Beddome, who collected the shells in the early sixties in the interior of the Anamullay Mountains, at an elevation of about 3,000 feet. He states that no European had visited the locality before, and that he sent specimens at the time to Dr. W. T. Blanford, who gave it the manuscript name *Helix miserrima*. These specimens being in the late Dr. Blanford's collection which he bequeathed to the British Museum, have been made the types. Several specimens, so named, were subsequently communicated to various Indian Museums, and for that reason I have thought it advisable to adopt the name.

No *Vallonia* has hitherto been recorded so far south in Asia, but the genus was known to occur in Asia Minor, Persia, Transcaspia, Cashmir, the United Province of India (formerly called the North-West Province), Western Tibet, Siberia, China, and Japan.

A variety of *V. costata* was collected by Blanford at Mazendaran, Persia, as recorded by Nevill in "The Scientific Results of the Second Yarkand Mission," p. 4. The same author also described (loc. cit., p. 4) a variety *asiatica* of *V. costata*, collected by Stoliczka at Wakhan and other places north of Chitral, which he thought was probably the same as the variety recorded by von Martens for Turkestan.¹

V. costata is recorded from Turkish Armenia, Cilicia in Asia Minor, Cashmir, the Province Tchili in China, and Eastern Siberia, whence also a variety *amurensis* has been described. *V. pulchella* is stated to occur in Palestine, Asia Minor, Transcaspia, Turkish Armenia, Cashmir, and Eastern Siberia. *V. pulchella*, var. *persica*, is given for Persia and Transcaspia. *V. Ladacensis*, again, was described by Nevill (loc. cit., p. 4), and figured by von Martens from original specimens received by him from Nevill.² This species occurs at Mataian, and Leh, Ladak, in Cashmir; it was also recorded for Narka (?), Western Tibet, by Nevill, and for the Tian Schan Mountains, Turkestan, by von Martens, while Nevill³ mentions Spiti as habitat. *V. mionecton*, also from Persia; *V. pulchellula*, from Shanghai and Ningkuofu, in China; and *V. tenera*, from Tokyo and Osaka, in Japan, complete the list of known Asiatic species of *Vallonia*. Von Martens mentions⁴ *V. japonica*, A. Ad. MS., from Oshima, Yezo, but the species appears never to have been described.

¹ Fedtschenko's Expedition to Turkestan, 1874, p. 9.

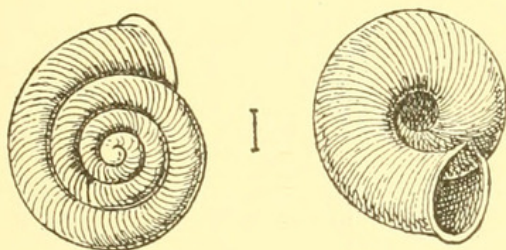
² Mem. Acad. Petersb., vol. xxx (1882), No. 11, p. 3, pl. iii, fig. 3.

³ Handlist, i (1878), p. 75.

⁴ Preuss. Exped. Ost-Asien: Zoology, p. 18.

VALLONIA MISERRIMA, n.sp.

Shell widely umbilicated, depressed turbinate, greyish white, translucent; nepionic whorls smooth, the remainder finely and closely ribbed. Spire depressed, apex obtuse, suture deep. Whorls nearly 4, tumid, not sloping towards the umbilicus, increasing regularly, except the last quarter whorl, which widens suddenly, descending deeply in front and dilated behind the peristome. Aperture obovate, oblique; margins convergent, united by a thin callus on the parietal wall;



peristome thin, slightly expanded and reflexed; margins evenly rounded, columellar margin triangularly dilated and impinging upon the wide open umbilicus. Diam. maj. 3, min. 2.5 mm.

Hab.—Anamullay Mountains, South India.

Co-types in Colonel Beddome's and my collection. The new species is allied to *V. Ladacensis*, but is more excentric than that species, and the last whorl descends more deeply in front, the whorls are more tumid, the body-whorl is more compressed, the suture deeper, and the last quarter whorl is more dilated, while the umbilicus is more open and the columellar margin more dilated.



Gude, Gerard Kalshoven. 1907. "DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF VALLONIA FROM SOUTH INDIA." *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London* 7, 306–307.

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