

CHARACTERS OF A NEW SUB-GENUS AND SPECIES OF
CHOANOPOMA FROM CUBA.

By H. B. PRESTON, F.Z.S.

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RAMSDENIA, n. subgen.

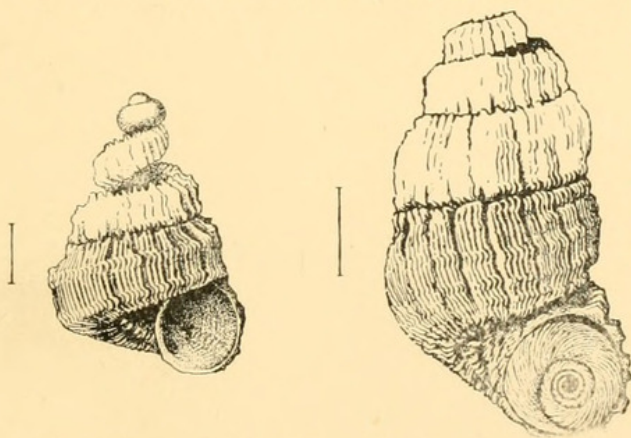
Shell perforate, cylindrical, the first two whorls mamillary, contiguous, the third widely disjunct, the fourth, fifth, and sixth contiguous except towards the aperture where the last is slightly disjunct, transversely, laminately sculptured; operculum calcareous, with central, depressed nucleus, the outer margin costulate, the inner or depressed portion bearing a raised spiral ridge.

Genotype: *R. mirifica*, n.sp.

The adult shell is generally decollate, and lacks the first three whorls; thus only immature specimens, as a rule, show the upper distinguishing characters.

There seems little doubt but that *Ramsdenia* should be classed as a sub-genus of *Choanopoma*,¹ Pfr., and would in some respects appear to be intermediate between *Choanopoma*, *sensu stricto*, and its sub-genera *Blasospira*² and *Xenopoma*,³ both of Crosse.

It is with great pleasure that I associate the name of my friend Mr. Charles T. Ramsden, the collector, with the above sub-genus.



CHOANOPOMA (RAMSDENIA) MIRIFICA, n.sp.

Shell dextral, cylindrically fusiform, cream-coloured; whorls 6, the first two smooth except in the sutural region, where they are strongly and serratedly crenellate, the third whorl loosely disjunct, sculptured only with erect, fine, slightly distant, transverse costulae, the fourth, fifth, and sixth volutions joined except just behind the aperture, angled at the periphery, sculptured with spiral liræ crossed by very wavy, erect, fine, frill-like, transverse costulae arranged in groups of two or three on the fourth whorl, three to four on the fifth, and four to five or six on the last whorl, the interstices being occupied with fine, wavy, scratch-like, spiral striae; suture deeply incised, coarsely

¹ Zeitsch. f. Malak., 1847, pp. 47, 107.

² Journ. de Conch., Paris, vol. xxxviii, pp. 280-2, 1890.

³ Tom. cit., pp. 282-3.

crenellated and serrated by the termination of the groups of frill-like costulæ; perforation very narrow, spinously costulate; peristome continuous, subcircular, outwardly frilled by the termination of the spiral liræ except in the immediate contra-parietal region; operculum calcareous, sinistral, white, deeply depressed in the centre, having four volutions, the two outer whorls closely, obliquely, arcuately costulate, the two inner bearing an erect, serrated, spiral ridge. Alt. (allowing for apical whorls), 8.75 (about), diam. maj. 4 mm.; aperture, alt. 1.75, diam. 1.75 mm.

Hab.—Bayate, near Concepcioncita, 30 miles north-west of Guantanamo, “a totally unexplored locality” (C. T. Ramsden). Young specimens of this extraordinary form are widely umbilicate and bear a marginal, a sub-marginal, and an interior spiral liration.



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