Berbyce mollis, a new British Coral. By Dr. J. E. GRAY.

A few years ago Mr. M'Andrew gave to the British Museum a specimen of a Coral he had collected in Loch Toridon, in Rossshire. It has been regarded, I believe, as a young specimen of

Gorgonia verrucosa.

Dr. Perceval Wright the other day gave to the British Museum a specimen of *Berbyce mollis* that he had dredged at Syracuse; and on comparing Mr. M'Andrew's specimen from Scotland with the Gorgonoid from Syracuse, there can be no doubt they are the same

species, and very distinct from Gorgonia verrucosa.

Berbyce mollis, ever since it was described by Dr. Philippi (Arch. für Naturg. 1842, p.35, t.1. f.a,b,c), has been a paradox to zoologists; but the examination of the figure ought to have settled the difficulty. Dr. Philippi described the genus as having non-retractile tentacles, and, to enforce the importance he attached to the character, printed non-retractile in italic. He figures the coral with completely retracted polypes; and the specimens in the British Museum, from Syracuse and Loch Toridon, exactly agree with the figure.

M. Valenciennes, in his very hasty observations on Gorgonia, probably misled by the description, states his belief that the genus Berbyce was founded on a Sympodium parasitic on the axis of a

common Gorgonia! (See M.-Edw. Corall. i. 187.)

Berbyce is a true Gorgoniad, and chiefly differs from the genus Gorgonia, as restricted by modern authors, by the polype-cell being shorter and the stem and branches compressed, and in the form of the spicules.

On the Bats collected in Sarawak by the Marquis Giacomo Doria. By Prof. W. Peters.

Prof. Peters enumerates fourteen species of Cheiroptera as inhabitants of Sarawak (and describes one of them as a new species and the type of a new subgenus), namely:—

1. Pteropus hypomelanus, Temm., var. Tomesii (=P. hypomelanus, Tomes, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1858, p. 536).

2. Cynopterus brevicaudatus, F. Cuv.

3. Macroglossus minimus, Geoffr.

4. Megaderma spasma, L.

5. Rhinolophus luctus, Temm.

6. — trifoliatus, Temm.

7. Phyllorhina labuanensis, Tomes.

8. — bicolor, Temm.

- 9. Emballoneura monticola (Kuhl), Temm.
- 10. Nyctinomus plicatus, Buchanan.
- 11. Chiromeles torquatus, Horsf.
- 12. Vespertilio adversus, Horsf.
- 13. Vesperugo imbricatus, Temm.

14. Vesperus (Hesperoptenus) Doriæ, sp. et subgen. nov.

The inferior three-lobed incisors stand obliquely to the margin of the jaw, so that they partially cover each other in front. The first



Gray, John Edward. 1869. "Berbyce mollis, a new British Coral." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 3, 246–246. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/00222936908695933">https://doi.org/10.1080/00222936908695933</a>.

View This Item Online: <a href="https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/79672">https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/79672</a>

**DOI:** https://doi.org/10.1080/00222936908695933

Permalink: <a href="https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/62503">https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/62503</a>

## **Holding Institution**

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

## Sponsored by

**Smithsonian** 

## **Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <a href="https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org">https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org</a>.