

$4\frac{1}{2}$ , more or less flattened laterally and inclined to be shouldered; smooth; suture deep; spire short, less than one-third of the entire length, apex obtuse; aperture small, ovate, angled above, rounded below, flattened on the parietal margin, which is quite oblique to the axis. Peristome thick, continuous, entirely free from contact with the body-whorl in fully mature specimens.

Alt.  $3\frac{1}{2}$ , diam.  $2\frac{1}{4}$ , length of aperture  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mill.

Alt. 3, diam. 2, length of aperture  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mill.

Habitat: Goat Island, Niagara River, N. Y.

*Amnicola sheldoni* Pils. is the only species with which this can be compared. The present species, however, is to be distinguished by its flattened, shouldered whorls, deeper suture and more acuminate spire. Six mature examples were found which, though differing somewhat in the relative proportions of length and width, are, as a whole, quite uniform. In four of them, the peristome is distinctly separated from the body-whorl; in one, while continuous, it is so close as to be almost adnate, while in the remaining specimen, the parietal margin, although somewhat broken, seems to have been appressed to the body-whorl for a short distance. Associated with these specimens were two other examples quite similar, but much more cylindrical in outline, less solid, and with the aperture less angled posteriorly. Neither is quite mature, judging from the thinness of the lip. In view of the considerable variation in these particulars in other well-known species of the genus, such as *Amnicola lustrica* Pils. and of the few specimens now at hand, it is not deemed advisable at the present time to do more than call attention to the fact. Dr. Pilsbry, to whom some of the specimens were submitted, suggests that, like *Pyrgulopsis mississippiensis* Pils., it is probably an extinct species, and will be found in some quarternary bed along the Niagara or some tributary creek.

The type specimens were collected by Miss E. Jennie Letson, of Buffalo, N. Y., and the species is named in her honor.

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#### EXOTIC MOLLUSKS IN CALIFORNIA.

BY JOSIAH KEEP.

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In a recent pamphlet, Mr. R. E. C. Stearns speaks of twelve exotic species of mollusks that have been found in California. Sev-



eral of these are increasing rapidly. Recently two bright lads of our "Isaac Lea Chapter," Masters Doe and Gifford, brought me fine specimens of *Modiola plicatula* Lam. which they had found on the southwestern shore of San Francisco Bay. They also guided me to numerous colonies of *Urosalpinx cinereus* Say. on the Alameda shore, which they had naturally mistaken for the native *Ocenebra circumtexta* Stearns. They showed me several dead valves of *Venus mercenaria* Linn. which they had picked up on the same shore, but of which they had not been able to find living specimens. We cannot, therefore, certainly add this species to Mr. Stearns' list, but it is quite probable that living forms of the same will soon be found in deeper water.

Of the land species included with the twelve, two at least are becoming quite common. *Zonites cellarius* Müll. appeared abundantly the past season in the college garden, and *Helix aspersa* Müll. I have artificially propagated with much success, using a frame like a board-covered hot-bed, and feeding with cabbage leaves and similar vegetables. I have now introduced several native species into the frame and am awaiting the spring-time with much interest. *Helix californiensis* Lea does not thrive, as it evidently sighs for the sands of Monterey and the toothsome rattle-weed; but its near neighbor, *Helix dupetithouarsii* Desh., from Cypress Point, seems quite at home, and is as happy as if it were shaded by the venerable trees on that rocky promontory. Possibly it is because the frame is sheltered by a hedge of tall cypresses, lineal descendants from the trees on Cypress Point. I have often wished that the long and cumbrous name of this species could be changed to the short and highly-suggestive one, *Helix cupressa*, the cypress snail. But I suppose that the law of priority is like the law of the Medes and Persians, "which altereth not."

Mills College, Cal.

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#### NOTICES OF NEW JAPANESE LAND SNAILS.

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BY HENRY A. PILSBRY.

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*Clausilia Hiraseana* n. sp. A *Megalophædusa* with the size and general form of *Cl. japonica*, but strongly sculptured with rib-striae, far coarser than in any other known Japanese species. The sub-



Keep, Josiah. 1901. "Exotic mollusks in California." *The Nautilus* 14, 114–115.

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