# Blauchemp

### THE NAUTILUS.

51. Pisidium Dabneyi De Guerne. Kindness Mr. Dabney.

52. Pinna rudis L.

Where no locality is mentioned in the list, Horta, Fayal Islands, Azores, is to be understood.

### NOTES ON FAMILIAR MOLLUSKS.

### BY W. M. BEAUCHAMP.

It is the custom to call *Melantho rufus* Hald., a variety of M. decisus Say, and there are some good reasons for this. It is more than a mere color variety, however, as those familiar with its habits know very well. The shell is usually grayer and more polished without, besides the rich purple within. It requires warmer water than M. decisus, and in New York is restricted to favorable localities, while the other has a very wide range. Those who have taken the animal from the shell, find that it has a greater muscular adhesion, not separating readily. The young mollusks have well marked features from the very first. Thus far in New York, I have found the shell only where canal boats have been.

Some have also thought Valvata tricarinata and sincera Say, varieties of one species. There is little to suggest this in the forms or habits of these little shells. The outer appearance is very different, they have not the same haunts, nor do they eat the same food. If they are ever found together, it is in death rather than in life, as far as my experience goes.

Bythinia tentaculata Linn, has become very abundant since I first reported it many years ago. In portions of the Erie Canal it has driven out Goniobasis livescens and Virginica, merely by eating up their food. It prefers canal waters to any other, as many species do.

In the Erie Canal I collected *Pleurocera subulare* Lea, but with this I found *P. intensum* and *pallidum*, of the same author, which seem only varieties of the former. Mr. Tryon agreed with me in this. The variations are by no means as great as in *Gon. Virginica* Gmel.; in fact there seems little difference beyond the color and markings.

I have had Margaritana margaritifera Linn from tributaries of the Mohawk river, but nowhere west of these in New York. It is THE N

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### A NOTE ON MR. PIL:

BY T. D. A. COCKERELL KINGSTON

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> Limax Linn. (= Limacella Brard

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### THE NAUTILUS.

likely to occur elsewhere, as the Unionidae are not the worst of travellers. I once found a number of Anodonta Benedicti, which had been thrown ashore by the waves on Onondaga lake, raising themselves on edge and working their way to the water. Can any one point out an invariable feature distinguishing Unio radiatus and luteolus? The distinctions do very well for some, but others seem a good deal mixed. Has not every collector some which he has not named?

Shells are not abundant in Colorado, and I took pleasure in showing the actions of *Helix Cooperi* W. G. B. to some there who had never seen a snail. This snail is abundant in Williams' Cañon, near Manitou, but I found it nowhere else, perhaps for want of time. In Cheyenne Cañon I collected some very small snails, which I unfortunately lost before identification. Conditions there are seldom favorable but something might be done by a zealous naturalist. For myself I confess that other things proved more attractive for the time. In the East, rocks are better collecting grounds, which reminds me how greatly *Helix albolabris*, on rocky islands, differs from the same shell in more fertile lands.

## A NOTE ON MR. PILSBRY'S "ARTICLE IV."

BY T. D. A. COCKERELL, INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA,

KINGSTON, JAMAICA.

It is vary unfortunate that so much discussion should seem necessary about Limacella or Philomycus, but I am obliged to add still a few remarks to remove what seems to be a slight misunderstanding. (1) Limacella Brard. My slug notes are not just now at hand, but I think I may safely assert that when Limacella was proposed in 1815, the Limax of modern authors was not specially provided with a name. The Linnean Limax included Arion, Limax, Agriolimax and even an Eolis. The first mentioned species in the Linnean Limax is what we now call an Arion (A. ater). Brard's first Limacella, I believe was Limax maximus of modern authors. Thus, if we were to adopt a very strict rule of priority, we might write as follows:

Limax Linn. (=Arion Fér.) Limacella Brard (=Limax Auctt.)

TILUS.

### Kindness Mr. Dabney.

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#### AR MOLLUSKS.

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