

VI.—On new Species of Bivalve Mollusca found at Cumana, Venezuela. By R. J. LECHMERE GUPPY, F.L.S., F.G.S., &c.

[Plate VII. figs. 1 & 2.]

ONE of the shells now to be described is a large and fine species of *Venus*. If I mistake not, this species has been regarded by some as the *V. crenulata* of Chemnitz; but the shell which I have for years considered to be that species is a smaller and very different one.

The other shell is a *Mactra*, not belonging to the typical group of that genus, but, on the contrary, somewhat of an aberrant form. It is a large and interesting species.

The recent, not less than the fossil, shell-fauna of Cumana is very interesting. Among the recent shells are several which are by no means common in the West Indies—as, for instance, the true *Persona reticularis* (Linn.), which, though nearly allied to, must not be confounded with the *P. clathrata* of Madagascar nor with the fossil *P. simillima* of the West-Indian Miocene. *Dipsacus glabratus* occurs at Cumana; and I have also from that place an undetermined species of *Fusus* (which resembles young shells of *Fasciolaria gigantea*, except that it has a longer canal), and also the following—*Solarium tessellatum*, *Phos guadelupensis*, *Venus flexuosa*, *Calyptrea auriculata* (of which apparently there is a good figure in the large edition of Cuvier's 'Règne Animal,' pl. 48. f. 4, under the name of *C. Cuvieri*, Desh.), *Oliva reticularis* (several forms), and *O. monilifera*, Reeve (? = *O. mutica*, Say, = *nitidula*).

Venus superba, n. sp. Pl. VII. fig. 2.

Ovate, slightly subtrigonal, a little inequilateral, ventricose; anteriorly produced and rounded; posteriorly produced and subangulate; umbones closely approximate; lunule large, striated with irregular diverging lamellæ, distinctly defined by a sharp groove; posterior dorsal area large, striate, not distinctly defined. Valves marked with numerous irregular angulate streaks of chestnut or brown, and adorned with numerous concentric crenate ribs, which are rather more distant, thinner, and more distinctly crenate near the anterior and posterior margins; on the disk the ribs are square, flattened, and polished, and the crenation is less marked. Length 70 millims., height 55, thickness about 45.

Mactra anserina, n. sp. Pl. VII. fig. 1.

Oval, compressed, subequilateral, gaping widely posteriorly;
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anteriorly somewhat produced and subangular; posteriorly high, with a decided obtuse angle formed by a low keel running from the umbo, on the upper and posterior side of which keel the shell is covered with a black epidermis. Valves flattened, white, rather fragile, marked with concentric striæ of growth, which are worn smooth on the disk and umbones, but towards the ventral margin are covered with a yellowish-brown wrinkled epidermis. Length 85 millims., height 60, thickness 30.

Closely allied to *M. fragilis*, which, indeed, appears to have been confounded with it. The details of the hinge are somewhat similar to those of the hinge of *Hemimactra gigantea*; but the postcarinal area resembles that of *Schizodesma*. The latter feature is much developed in our shell, and is remarkable for its black epidermis, that of the other portions of the shell being of a light brown.

VII.—Notice of some Marine Shells found on the Shores of Trinidad. By R. J. LECHMERE GUPPY, F.L.S., F.G.S., &c.

[Plate VII. figs. 3 & 4.]

Purpura trinitatensis, Guppy.

A solid, ovate, yellowish, subrimate shell, adorned with numerous rounded spiral ridges, which are crossed by fine imbricating striæ: whorls about 6, with four spiral rows of obtuse elongated tubercles, of which the two upper rows are much the largest, the superior one forming the angle of the whorls: suture hidden by a row of stout curved and reflected lamellæ, of which there are about three above each of the tubercles on the angle of the whorl: spire conic, sharp: mouth pink within, and often ornamented with two or three more or less interrupted spiral red or chestnut lines corresponding to the external rows of tubercles: aperture oval, with a small and decided posterior canal forming the successive sutural lamellæ; anterior canal open and a little reflected: pillar-lip smooth, flattened or hollowed out, bright pink; outer lip denticulate, obsoletely striate within. Height 40 millims., greatest breadth 27, longest diameter of aperture 26.

Hab. Gulf of Paria.

A species somewhat resembling *P. mancinella*, but with a sharper spire and a more decided striation. The sutural lamellæ are well developed, like those of *P. coronata*. There is a strong ridge round the base,



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