

which they were growing. The following facts were thought to be of interest in this connection. First, that in these animals, relatively high in organization, aeration may go on for a number of hours by means of the retracted tentacles in the small amount of water contained within the cells. Second, that the presence of oxide of iron in the water does not interfere with the growth of the animals. And third, that the genus *Plumatella* may be found to resemble other mollusk-like creatures not only in their plan of organization, but in their habits of sustaining life for long periods after removal of the animals from water. The last-named fact may possibly enter into questions of geographical distribution of this and allied forms.

On Balanus, etc., at Bass Rocks, Mass.—Prof. LEIDY remarked that the Barnacle, *Balanus balanoides*, of which he presented a series of specimens from Bass Rocks, Gloucester Co., Mass., is found everywhere in the greatest profusion covering the rocks, between tides, on our eastern coast. It is also common on many other more or less fixed objects, such as shells of dead or living mollusks, lobsters and crabs, old wrecks of vessels, etc. The specimens presented are interesting from their exhibiting a remarkable variation in form, mainly due to the difference in the extent of room in which they grow. In general when isolated or with ample space, the shells are comparatively broad and low, and narrowed from their base of attachment to the aperture; or they are in the shape of short truncated cones, with the breadth as great or greater than the length. When crowded more or less close together, they assume a longer, narrower, cylindrical form, expanding towards the mouth; and thus they may become three or four times the length of the breadth, with the shape of a tubular corolla of a flower. They may be straight, variably curved and compressed. The series of specimens presented exhibit the following proportionate measurements:—

Height.	Breadth near the base—expanding to — and then contracting to the mouth.		
27 mm.	3		7
27	4.5		8
26	3		8
26	6		9
26	6		8
25	2		6
21	7		9
20	5		12
27	6	9	8
24	8	9	8
23	9	11	9
19	7	10	8

Height.	Breadth at base	— and then contracting to the mouth.
12 mm.	12	10
11	10	8
10	13	10
8	15	8

The specimens of *Littorina litorea* and of *Purpura lapillus* presented were also collected at Bass Rocks where they occurred in great abundance, and appeared to be the commonest gasteropods of the locality. The former is described in the report on the Invertebrata of Massachusetts, of Gould and Binney, but the only locality given for it is Halifax, while it is not noticed as occurring at Vineyard Sound in the report of the U. S. Commission of Fish, Pt. i, 1873.

SEPTEMBER 12, 1882.

The President, Dr. LEIDY, in the chair.

Twenty-seven persons present.

The death of Wm. H. Allen, a member, August 29, 1882, was announced.

The following were ordered to be published:—



1882. "On Balanus, Etc., at Bass Rocks, Mass." *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia* 34, 224–225.

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