

rotundatus, ad finem brevissime et leviter subascendens. Apertura parùm obliqua, subcircularis, intùs luteola. Peristoma subinterruptum, anguste, ad columellam paulo magis expansiusculum.

Diam. $9\frac{1}{4}$, alt. $9\frac{1}{2}$, alt. apert. vix 5 mill.

Hab.: Region of Fort Dauphin, S. Madagascar (F. Sikora).

Although this small species bears some resemblance with others, like *C. undatoliratum* Boettg., etc., still I cannot identify it with any of them.

Cyclostoma obsoletum Lam.

Hab.: Province of Boeni.

Cyclostoma filostriatum Sowerby.

Hab.: Fort Dauphin (F. Sikora).

About the geographical distribution, it may be of interest to note that *Helicophanta magnifica* has been found in Imerina, where it is said to be very scarce (Sikora), and *Heliophanta cornu-giganteum*, Chemnitz, in southern Madagascar, near Fort Dauphin (Sikora).

NOTE ON NEOCORBICULA FISCHER.

BY W. H. DALL.

In a small collection of freshwater shells from Uruguay, recently received, are specimens of *Corbicula obsoleta* Deshayes and *C. limosa* Maton. The latter is the *C. variegata* Orbigny, and the type of Fischer's section *Neocorbicula*, proposed for the American Corbiculas, which have separate siphons and a small pallial sinus, while the European types of the genus *Corbicula* have an unsinuated pallial line.

Several of the specimens above mentioned had the animal matter dried up within the shell, and in removing this it was discovered that the shells contained a large number of nepionic young of varied size, some nearly two millimeters in length and already showing radiating lines of color. There were 15 to 20 of the young fry in each individual, and while the dried matter gave no distinct indication of the original arrangement, the fry in each case were in the umbonal cavities.

I have run over the literature and manuals and have not found any reference to viviparity in *Corbicula* or *Cyrena*, though of course it is well known in the allied *Sphærium* and *Pisidium*. If it is a characteristic of the Old World *Corbiculas*, it is singular that it has not been hitherto noted.

The prodissoconch in these young shells is rounded, polished and translucous, and presents no remarkable peculiarities.

If the brooding of the nepionic young in a marsupial sac is a further point of distinction between the New and Old World forms, it is probable that it may be regarded as raising the value of the subdivision to higher than sectional rank.

"PYRAMIDULA" ELRODI AND EPIPHRAGMOPHORA CIRCUMCARINATA.

BY ROBERT E. C. STEARNS.

In connection with my remarks upon the above-named forms in the October number of THE NAUTILUS, and Dr. Pilsbry's comments that follow, he says: "The difference between Dr. Stearns' views and my own, of the affinities of the two *Helices*, may be due to his having, perhaps, no examples of *circumcarinata* at hand for direct comparison with *elrodi*." This suggestion is correct. I have not seen an example of *circumcarinata* for ten years, and only a single specimen of *Elrodi*, that heretofore referred to by me.

The dominant features of these shells are surprisingly alike. The many though less conspicuous characters indicated by Dr. Pilsbry in their bearing on the distinctive point, must therefore be accepted. The remarkable similarity exhibited between the forms in question are presumptively, as Dr. Pilsbry observes, the result of similar environmental conditions "acting upon organisms originally diverse, and indeed not closely related."

Closeness of relationship or otherwise, among land-snails inhabiting the same geographic or physiographic area, though the area may include a broad extent of territory, is another and very interesting question.

Regarding the relations of the *strigosa* group of snails, I have for a long time held the opinion that it was decidedly out of place in



Dall, William Healey. 1902. "Note on Neocorbicula Fischer." *The Nautilus* 16, 82–83.

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