

corpulent. It has been identified as *corpulentus* Say, but this is a totally different species, the characters of which have been very fully described by Mr. Bryant Walker in a previous volume of the NAUTILUS.

It would be interesting to know the exact range of *binneyi*, and I would suggest that conchologists generally examine their collections for this species, sending the information to either Mr. Walker, of Detroit, or to me (or to both of us).

A large amount of exact data is needed to accurately determine the range of the various species of fresh-water pulmonates, and a few notes on this magnificent *Planorbis* will aid materially in this direction.

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PISIDIUM MARCI, N. SP.

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BY V. STERKI.

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Mussel rather small, well inflated, high, slightly inequipartite and oblique, with outlines well rounded; superior margin short, nearly straight, with a rounded angle at its posterior end and a very slightly marked one at the anterior; posterior and inferior margins forming one regular, nearly circular curve, supero-anterior slope slightly marked; beaks little posterior, large, somewhat flattened, well prominent; surface shining, with medium fine, irregular striæ and several distinct lines of growth, the upper one marking off the nepionic mussel (as in *Musculium*); color straw to yellowish-horn,<sup>1</sup> with slightly marked lighter and darker zones; hinge short, rather slight, but well formed, with a short ligament, plate narrow; cardinal teeth somewhat curved; the right one moderately long, its posterior part thicker and grooved; left anterior very short, "high," abrupt, thin, the posterior almost longitudinal, twice as long as the anterior, less "high," slightly thicker and grooved in its posterior part; lateral cusps short, pointed, the outer ones of the right valve smaller but distinct, not pointed.

Long. 3.5, alt. 3.4, diam. 2.5 mm.

Habitat: Mt. Leidy, Utah, at 10,000 feet, in a stagnant pond, collected by Mr. Marcus H. Dall (son of Dr. Wm. H. Dall), in whose honor the species is named, on September 18, 1905.

This *Pisidium* appears not to be closely related to any of our

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<sup>1</sup> Most specimens appear brownish from the dried soft parts.



described species, and cannot be referred to one, even taking into account the high altitude and the nature of the locality. It somewhat resembles some high forms of *P. scutellatum* St., but is less oblique, has broader beaks, and the surface striæ are coarser. The short, pointed inner lateral cusps of the right valve are notable. The nine specimens in the lot are remarkably uniform, two of them somewhat over half grown, the others apparently mature. The one opened for examining the hinge contained no visible embryos. The types are in the U. S. Nat. Mus., No. 187491.

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#### NOTES.

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A GIANT SQUID.—I received a letter to-day (April 2, 1909) from Provincetown which contains an item I think should go on record. It is as follows:

“The schooner ‘Annie Perry’ found a giant squid off Highland Light, Truro, Mass., last week and tried to hoist it on board the vessel, but the rope cut the body in half. It was perfectly fresh, and the crew took some of it for bait and caught quite a number of fish. I saw one of the tentacles which they brought ashore, and it was perfectly fresh then. It was seven feet six inches long, and the suckers were as large as a silver quarter. A piece of the body was, I should think, four inches in thickness and the tentacles must have been four inches in diameter at the larger end.”

The above must be the first record of the giant squid on our coast, although they must exist off shore in deeper water. I have written to see if I can secure the beaks or any part to aid in its identification.

(April 16, 1909.) I have received a little more information in regard to the giant squid taken off Highland Light, Truro. A letter to-day says:

“The captain of the vessel who took the squid says it was a very little larger than their dory, which is 16 or 17 feet in length. The tentacle which they brought ashore was  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet long and had ‘sucker cups’ the *whole length* of it.” [This would show it was one of the shorter tentacles.] “The whole animal was shaped like the common squid, that is, the body was not globular like the cuttlefish, but had fins or flippers on the tail just like the common squid. The piece which I wrote about was cut out of the side, and about four inches thick, and the whole body was about as large around (circumference)



Sterki, Victor. 1909. "Pisidium marci, n. sp." *The Nautilus* 23, 42–43.

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