2, 1887), which also includes *C. vata* Q. & G. With the identification of the true shell of *Corolla*, this name becomes unnecessary, and *Corolla* resumes the generic rank I assigned to it, with the addition of a second species, *Corolla calceola* Verrill (sp.) from the eastern coast of United States; *Cymbuliopsis* becoming in its turn a synonym. The details of structure I hope to publish later with illustrations; the object of this note is merely the rectification of the synonymy. In a general way I should be indisposed to claim priority for a name which was imperfectly characterized in publication, but Dr. Pelseneer has set the example by adopting *Gleba*, which stands in exactly the same predicament and as it is really the best plan (except in very glaring cases) to take the first identifiable name, I follow his example.

THE SHELL-BEARING MOLLUSCA OF RHODE ISLAND.

BY HORACE F. CARPENTER.

173.—*Sphærium sulcatum* Lam., 1818.

This, the largest species of the genus in America, is widely distributed throughout New England, and the Middle and Western States and Canada, and inhabits rivers and large ponds. It presents much variation in size and color. It has been known best in this country by the name of Cyclas similis Say, but Lamarck's name has priority. The animal is white with light orange siphons. The shell is transversely oval, nearly equilateral, very light for its size; valves convex, broad across the beaks, which are but slightly elevated above the general curve of the shell; interior bluish; exterior dark chestnut; surface concentrically wrinkled with strongly-raised lines, with a broader band corresponding to each year's growth. Length, $\frac{7}{10}$, heighth, $\frac{1}{2}$, breadth, $\frac{1}{3}$, inch. The young shells do not resemble the adults, and might well be mistaken for another species; they are thin and compressed, with both ends truncated and resemble rhomboideum; in fact most of the specimens in cabinets labeled rhomboideum are simply the young shells of sulcatum. The color of the young shells is lemon-yellow, but as they grow older a dark shade appears at the beaks and gradually spreads downwards until it covers the entire surface. In intermediate stages there is a yellow zone on the lower margin. They are found in R.

I. in the Ten Mile River, and are very abundant in the Blackstone.

Genus *Pisidium*, Pfeiffer, 1821.

This genus was confounded by earlier writers with Tellina (a marine genus) and still later with Sphaerium. Pfeiffer first observed the difference in both animal and shell and proposed the name of Pisidium for this group.

The animal of Sphaerium has the lobes of the mantle united posteriorly, into a tube, single at the base, but separated into two siphons at the extremities, while in Pisidium it is united its entire length.

The shells of Sphaerium have the beaks central, dividing the hinge margin into equal parts, and the cardinal teeth are situated immediately under the beaks; in Pisidium the beaks are terminal, *i. e.*, nearer the posterior extremity; the cardinal teeth also are terminal and the ligament is on the shorter side. The teeth of Pisidium are stronger and more robust in proportion to the size of the shell than in Sphaerium. The habits of the animals are the same, burrowing in mud or attached to the roots and stems of aquatic plants. The best time to collect these shells is from April to July.

There are eight species in New England, three of which have been found in R. I.

174.—*Pisidium abditum*, Haldeman.

Shell rounded-oval, elongated, margins well rounded; beaks small, raised a little above the curve of the shell; surface smooth, not distinctly striated; epidermis generally straw color, but sometimes dark and the surface rough and coarsely striated; cardinal teeth small, separate; the anterior one larger and prominent; lateral teeth short. Length, $\frac{15}{100}$, height, $\frac{14}{100}$, breadth, $\frac{9}{100}$, inch. Inhabits nearly all of North America, is very common and is found in swamps and on the margins of small streams.

P. aequilaterale, compressum, ferrugineum, and ventricosum are species which occur in Maine, Massachusetts and New York, but have never been found in R. I. They are widely distributed over other parts of the country and may possibly inhabit R. I., although not yet observed. P. abditum was described by Haldeman in Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila. i, 53, 1841, and has twenty-five synonymous names.

(*To be continued.*)