

ON THE LAND SHELLS OF TASMANIA,

BY W. LEGRAND.

When Woodward classed the Terrestrial Mollusks of Tasmania, with those of Australia, south of the tropic, but little was known of them. At the time he wrote the number of described species of *Helix* was six, two of which have since proved to be identical, and two others doubtfully Tasmanian, thus reducing the number to three.

Since that time much work has been done, the number now described numbering over fifty. Tasmania has a fauna peculiar to herself, more nearly related to that of the Northern Island of New Zealand than Australia. Take the section Videna, Australia proper does not possess a single species, while Tasmania has five, *Sinclairi*, *Hamiltoni*, *Launcestonensis*, *dubitans*, and a new species lately discovered by Mr. Gould, at the Leven, proposed to be named *DuCanii* (next to *Launcestonensis*, the largest *Helix* yet found here.) If the doubtful species *bisulcata* be admitted, the number is six. New Zealand has two—*Dunniæ* and *Greenwoodi*. This is peculiarly an island section, the greater number being from the Solomon's. Our number is nearly equal to those from all other places together.

The nearest we have to the great New Zealand *Busbyi* (except with *Albers* we admit *Vitrina Milligani*, a classification which must have been made from the shell alone, the animal being essentially different) is *fulgetrum*. A shell found at Ringarooma, named by Brazier, *Kingi* comes very near. Victoria has one belonging to the same section—*Helix atramentaria*—which comes between, and is the largest land-shell yet found in that province.

New Zealand has several of the section *Conulus*. We have one, *H. parvissima*, Cox, which comes very near that, or such shells as *H. alpha* and *beta*, Pfr. Of the sections *Discus*, *Patula* and *Hyalina*, we have about the same proportionate number as New Zealand and Australia, and of the section *Hemiplecta* we have one, possibly two. This is also an island shell. Like New Zealand, the greater part of our *Helices* are minute.

Of the section represented by *Allporti*, Cox, there are six or eight species. For beauty of colouring must be noticed *Tasmaniæ*, *fulgetrum*, *Juliformis*, *Nelsonensis*, and *ruga*; for peculiarity of form *parvissima* may be mentioned; and for beauty of shape *Stephensi* and *Kingstonensis* must not be passed by.

One very fine shell (*H. Daveycensis*), the largest yet found

belonging to the section *Discus*, coming from Port Davey, deserves particular notice.

Austrinus is more noticeable from its habitat than from the shell itself, which is allied to *Allporti*. It comes from the extreme south of the island, near South Cape Bay.

We possess three introduced species, *Morti*, *Sydneyensis*, and *Alexandræ*, all from New South Wales, and most probably brought in mould with plants.

Of our two species of *Bulimus*, the first well known one *B. Dufresni*, belongs to the same section (*Caryodes*) as a South Australian species, *Angasianus*. The second *B. (Mesembrinus) Tasmanicus*, Pfr., is nearly allied to an Australian species, *Kingi*. Nothing like either of these has yet been described as from New Zealand. We have no representative of such shells as *Shongi*. Our two *Vitrinas* belong to the section *Helicarion*; one is also found in South Australia, and probably other parts of the continent. The other, the fine *V. Milligani*, is found only on the western side of the island.

Our one species of *Succinea* is also common to Australia.

We have neither *Pupa*, *Pupina*, or *Balea*, all found in North and North-eastern Australia, or *Truncatella*, which is very plentiful in South Australia. Angas gives us credit for a *Blanfordia*, I never found it or heard of it here; the shell is however so minute that it might easily be passed by.

The materials yet collected are not sufficient to fix the geographical limits of the different species. Subjoined is a list of all yet described species:—

HELIX.		HELIX.		HELIX.		
Launcestonensis	Reeve	austrinus	„	cœpta	„	
Same {	Sinclari	Pfr.	occultus	„	positura	„
bisulcata ?	„	marchianæ	„	Nelsonensis	Brazier	
subangulata ?	„	Stephensi	„	dispar	„	
Diemensis	Cox	Agnewi	„	Onslowi	„	
Le Grandi	„	plexus	„	neglecta	„	
Hamiltoni	„	dubitans	„	Curacoa	„	
Hobarti	„	vigens	„	Ricei	„	
lampra	Pfr.	fulgetrum	„	ammonitoides	„	
lamproides	Cox	Juliformis	„	rotella	„	
minima	„	Ramsgatensis	„	Kingi	„	
similis	„	Halli	„	Fordei	„	
Tasmanix	„	Daveyensis	„	DuCanii	Cox	
Wellingtonensis	„	trajectura	„	<i>Introduced :—</i>		
Allporti	„	tranquilla	„	Sydneyensis	„	
medianus	„	mixta	„	Morti	„	
helice	„	parvissima	„	Alexandræ	„	
cœsus	„	Kingstonensis	„			

