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amongst other instances, to a great number of Dipterous genera the larvæ of which wallow in the excess of their food, and mentions that, out of 403 species of these Diptera, Meigen knew only the females of 255. But these examples cannot be adduced as in the least in favour of Landois's theory; for Meigen, in his well-known 'Systematische Beschreibung der europäischen zweiflügeligen Insekten,' very frequently, by his own admission, had only a *single* female and also very often only a *single* male in his hands as the type of the descriptions of his species. Such scanty material as this is certainly insufficient to prove the predominance of one sex over the other.

## XXII.—On some new Species of Oliva.

By F. P. MARRAT.

IN selecting the following shells and describing them as new species, I have been guided principally by prominent features in each case, that, in my opinion, warrant the selection and publication.

*Oliva lignaria*, Marrat, is very remarkable: at one time I supposed it might be a variety of *O. inflata*, Lam.; at another its resemblance to *O. maura*, Lam., appeared to be considerable; and at a third it was, until compared, thought to be a variety of *O. irisans*, Lam. It may prove to be a variety of any one of these three shells when specimens are obtained showing the gradual variation; but at present a shell possessing such connecting characters is still to be brought under notice.

*O. sabulosa*, Marrat.—The specimens of this shell are described as having red-brown markings. I think, in most if not in all cases, the original colour has been dark brown, and that bleaching in the sun has produced the red-brown colour, notwithstanding one of the shells is brilliantly polished and possesses all the appearance of a dredged shell.

I am much surprised that a shell of rather common occurrence and so decidedly distinct as *O. angustata*, Marrat, should have remained so long unnoticed by conchologists. Years ago its form was familiar to me among the shells imported in the boxes from China.

### 1. *Oliva lignaria*, Marrat.

Shell cylindrically oblong; spire depressed, callous; suture-edge dotted; colour drab, with dark-brown interrupted bands and angular lines, shaded with purplish spots and dotted lines; the whole interior of the aperture of a uniform purple brown; folds very prominent, one or two tinged



with brown; plaits numerous, indistinct; canal edged with brown.

Borneo.

About the size of a small *O. maura*.

2. *Oliva sabulosa*, Marrat.

Shell oblong fusiform; spire flatly conical; whorls rounded, callous; colour yellowish white, with small red-brown spots and two interrupted letter-like bands; columellar plaits prominent, continued nearly the whole length; interior of the aperture and columella cream-coloured; basal folds broad and raised.

Locality unknown.

Larger than *O. tricolor*, Lam., or *episcopalis*, Lam., with the spiral whorls peculiarly rounded and callous.

3. *Oliva angustata*, Marrat.

Shell narrowly cylindrical; spire slightly raised, canaliculate, edged with small rather close dots; colour pale yellow, with two brown interrupted bands and small pale dots; columella plaited more than midway, with two or three broad folds at the base; interior of the aperture bluish white.

China.

Most nearly allied to *O. neostina*, Duclos, but is smaller, narrower, and differs in the folds and columellar plaits.

4. *Oliva nota*, Marrat.

Shell ovate fusiform, rather inflated; spire considerably exserted, canaliculate; suture with large brown blotches; white, with broad wavy brown lines, which become darker about the belt; belt white; columella rounded, basal band white; a single deep-purple fold at the base; the pattern of the shell is seen through in the interior.

Locality unknown.

Not like any other species known to me. Size  $\frac{4}{10}$  inch by  $\frac{1}{10}$  inch.

5. *Oliva exilis*, Marrat.

Shell narrowly fusiform; spire elongate conical, canaliculate; colour white, with pale yellow-brown reticulated markings; beneath the spire and basal band white; columella callous, with five or six very strong plaits at the base; interior of aperture white.

South America.

This is a third species belonging to the genus *Lamprodoma* of Swainson. Size, similar to the last.



6. *Oliva pulchra*, Marrat.

Shell fusiform, rather narrow; spire conical, whorls slightly flattened; suture canaliculate; pale cream-coloured, with brown festoons below the suture; body-whorl with irregular brown longitudinal flames, spotted above the white basal band; columella slightly granular, with a single fold at the base.

Among some shells from California; but the locality is doubtful. A small shell, not larger than *O. oryza*, Lam.

## XXIII.—On a new Genus of Gastrotrichous Rotatoria.

By E. CLAPARÈDE\*.

THE genera *Chætonotus*, Ehrb., and *Ichthydium*, Ehrb., have hitherto occupied only an uncertain place in the zoological system. M. Ehrenberg joined them to *Ptygura* and *Glenophora* to form a family of Rotatoria; Dujardin considered them to belong to the Infusoria; M. Vogt classes them in a general way among the Vermes; M. Schmarda makes them almost Annelides; M. Ehlers even approximates them to the Nematoidea. The opinion most generally accredited is that which regards them as Turbellaria. M. Max Schultze was the first to develop this opinion when he made known, under the name of *Turbanella*†, a new genus belonging to the same group. The two authors who have most carefully studied these interesting animals of late are Mr. Gosse‡ and M. Mecz-nikow§.

The former, in making known several new species, avoids pronouncing an opinion on the natural position to be assigned to the family Chætonotides (Hairy-backed animalcules, as he calls them). It was, indeed, very difficult for him to form a judgment, on account of the unfortunate union with this family of two dissimilar genera, namely, *Taphrocampa*, Gosse, and *Echinoderes*, Duj. Now the *Taphrocampæ* are, as I have already demonstrated, true Rotatoria. As to *Echinoderes*, it has no affinities with either the Rotatoria or the Turbellaria. The mistake of Mr. Gosse with regard to them is easily ex-

\* Translated from the 'Annales des Sciences Naturelles,' 5<sup>e</sup> sér. tome viii. pp. 16–23.

† Beiträge zur Naturgeschichte der Turbellarien, von Dr. Max Sigismund Schultze, (Greifswald) p. 69.

‡ "The Natural History of the Hairy-backed Animalcules" (Intellectual Observer, 1864, pp. 307–406).

§ "Ueber *Chætonotus* und *Ichthydium*, und eine neue verwandte Gattung *Turbanella*," Müller's Archiv, 1853, p. 241.