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XLVI.—Notes on some recent Mediterranean species of Brachiopoda

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PLATE XXI.

- Fig. 1. *Cythere gibbosa* (female?), seen from the left side. }
 Fig. 2. The same, seen from above. } $\times 60$.
 Fig. 3. The same, seen from the front.
 Fig. 4. *Limnocythere Sancti-Patricii*; abdomen of female (?): *a*, abdomen;
b, postabdominal ramus (?); *c*, copulative organs (?). $\times 210$.
 Fig. 5. *Polycopse compressa*, seen from the left side.
 Fig. 6. The same, seen from above. }
 Fig. 7. The same, seen from behind. } $\times 60$.
 Fig. 8. The same, right valve, from inside, showing hinge-joint
 and serrulated margin.
 Fig. 9. The same, superior antenna. }
 Fig. 10. The same, inferior antenna. } $\times 210$.
 Fig. 11. The same, postabdominal ramus.
 Fig. 12. *Eucythere declivis*, var. *prava* (female), seen from left side. }
 Fig. 13. The same, seen from above. } $\times 40$.
 Fig. 14. The same (male), seen from the left side.

PLATE XXII.

- Fig. 1. *Ophianophus annulosus*, fragment of ray, dredged in Birterbuy
 Bay; natural size.
 Fig. 2. The same, disk, seen from above, with one ray; a little larger than
 natural size.
 Fig. 3. The same, base of a ray, with portion of disk, seen from below:
a, madreporo-plate; *b b*, smaller, and *c c*, larger mouth-papillæ.
 Fig. 4. The same, portion of ray, seen from below, denuded of spines.
 Fig. 5. The same, from above.
 Fig. 6. The same, transverse section of ray near the middle: *a*, outer,
b, inner foot-papillæ. (Figs. 2-6 after Sars.)
 Fig. 7. *Erungia stilipes*, upper antenna, $\times 84$.
 Fig. 8. The same, lower antenna, $\times 84$.
 Fig. 9. The same, maxilliped, $\times 210$.
 Fig. 10. The same, first gnathopod, $\times 84$.
 Fig. 11. The same, second gnathopod, $\times 84$.
 Fig. 12. The same, last segments of body, showing telson and uropod,
 $\times 84$.

XLVI.—*Notes on some recent Mediterranean Species of Brachiopoda.* By THOMAS DAVIDSON, F.R.S., F.G.S., &c.

WHILE I was recently at Nice, it was suggested by our distinguished naturalist Mr. J. G. Jeffreys that I should carefully examine the original specimens of the Mediterranean species of Brachiopoda described by Antonio Risso*, in order to clear away some uncertainty still prevailing with reference to the correct identification and specific value of that author's species. Risso's knowledge of the Mollusca, both recent and fossil, was considerably inferior to his amount of information regarding

* Histoire Naturelle des principales Productions de l'Europe Méridionale, et particulièrement de celles des Environs de Nice et des Alpes Maritimes, vol. iv. 1826.

fishes and crustacea; consequently we must not be surprised to find so large an amount of error in the work above specified. During his lifetime few were permitted access to his collection, which at his death was found in great confusion; but since that time it has been put into good order, and is liberally shown at the Villa Risso by his nephew, Sig. J. B. Risso, consul of the Nicaraguan republic. The shells have been cleaned, remounted, and rearranged with much care by Mr. Haas, a local amateur, likewise possessor of a fine series of recent shells. From this examination I have determined that:—

Terebratula emarginata and *T. quadrata*, Risso, are synonyms of *Terebratulina caput-serpentis* (Linnæus, sp.).

Terebratula truncata, Risso, is the *Megerlea* (*Anomia*) *truncata* of Linnæus.

Terebratula cuneata and *T. Soldaniana*, Risso, are both referable to a single species, for which the designation of *Argiope cuneata* (Risso, sp.) must be retained. *Orthis pera* (Mühlfeldt) is another synonym.

Terebratula urna-antiqua, Risso, is undoubtedly a synonym of *Argiope decollata* (Gmelin, sp.).

Terebratula cordata, Risso. In this collection we find a specimen of *Argiope* (*Ter.*) *neapolitana* labelled as the type of Risso's *cordata*, which I am inclined to consider correct. Risso did not figure his species; and his description is insufficient. I therefore question whether we are justified in preferring the term *cordata* to the well-known one of *Argiope* (*Ter.*) *neapolitana*, Scacchi, described in 1833.

Terebratula cardita, Risso. The figured specimen is no longer in the collection; but an example of *T. cordata*, = *A. neapolitana*, is labelled *cardita*. This is, no doubt, a mistake; for the specimen does not resemble the figure, bad as are all Risso's figures. Mr. Jeffreys and myself are of opinion that the incorrect figure of *T. cardita*, upon which Risso's description was probably founded, was a specimen of *Argiope decollata*. Therefore it will be necessary to exclude the term *T. cardita* from the list of Mediterranean Brachiopoda.

Terebratula aculeata, Risso, is no longer to be found in the collection; and as no figure is appended to the otherwise imperfect description, we are left without means of ascertaining what the shell really was; and the name will require to be erased from the list of Mediterranean shells.

Thecidium mediterraneum, Risso, is a good and well-known species.

I regret to add I could make out nothing certain or useful relative to the fossil species described by our author. The collection, it is true, contains a great number of fossil Brachiopoda, which were, no doubt, obtained from the Tertiary, Cretaceous, and Jurassic rocks, which occur plentifully in the neighbourhood of Nice, Italy, &c.; but as no figures accompany his scanty descriptions, and as the labels no longer exist or else are unrecognizable, those so-termed species become valueless for scientific purposes.

During my sojourn at Nice, I endeavoured to ascertain from Sig. Andrea Aradas, Professor at the University of Catania, in Sicily, what his *Terebratula Spada* really was, since it had been insufficiently figured by him in 1847; but not having been favoured with a reply, and not having seen the shell itself, the details here given must be regarded as provisional. This shell in size and shape much resembles certain delicately ribbed varieties of the *Waldheimia flavescens*, Lamarck, = *australis*, Quoy, of which the present known habitat is South Australia. Sig. Aradas mentions having found it only upon one occasion in the Mediterranean*. Its loop is long and similar to that of the species last named; and it is worthy of notice that no species or other specimen of *Waldheimia* has hitherto been dredged from the Mediterranean by any of the many naturalists that have searched that sea, the nearest spot being Vigo Bay, where Mr. R. MacAndrew once dredged two dwarfed specimens of *Waldheimia cranium*. I have since been assured by Sig. Seguenza, of Messina, that Sig. Aradas's specimen of *W. Spada* had been carefully examined by an experienced conchologist, who had pronounced it to belong to *Waldheimia flavescens*, and who does not believe it to be a Mediterranean shell, in which assumption I completely concur.

I now hasten to recognize Prof. O. G. Costa's priority of publication with reference to his genus *Platidia*. The discovery of the shell termed *Orthis anomoioides* is due to Scacchi; but that of its internal organization and generic character seems to have been made simultaneously and quite independently by Prof. Costa and myself; and, indeed, it was only recently that, having procured a copy of that gentleman's work, 'Fauna del regno di Napoli,' I found out for the first time I had been anticipated by three months and a few days in the publication of my genus *Morrisia*, which is the same as his *Platidia*. At page 47 of the work above named, pub-

* Nel Mare di Aci-Trezza, near Sicily.

lished on the 6th of January 1852, Prof. Costa enters upon lengthened details in connexion with his genus, of which the *Orthis anomioides*, Scacchi, is stated to be the type; he also, in pl. 3 bis, gives illustrations of its internal details. In the 'Annals & Mag. of Nat. Hist.' for May 1852, will be found my description and figures of the *Morrisia anomioides*; and it is singular that none of the many conchologists and palæontologists who have adopted my genus should have been acquainted with Costa's work, or been aware of his genus and priority.

XLVII.—*Notes on the Animal of the Organ-pipe Coral* (*Tubipora musica*). By ED. PERCEVAL WRIGHT, M.D., F.L.S., Professor of Botany and Zoology, Trinity College, Dublin.

[Plate XXIII.]

HERE and there, all along many of the fine sandy bays of Mahé and Praslin, will be found, cast up by the tide, masses of various sizes of the bright-red skeleton of the well-known organ-pipe coral; and in some places the finely broken-up fragments are so mixed up with the sand as to impart to it a slight red colour. Finding the skeletons so common, I expected with a little search to discover the living coral *in situ*, and with this object in view I searched many a mile of coral-reef, but without success. Hearing from some of the fishermen that, on a bank famous for such fine fish as *Mesoprion erythrinus*, *Gerres argyreus*, &c., quantities of red coral were often brought up on their hooks, I proceeded to the spot, and found large quantities of the skeletons of *Tubipora musica*, but no trace of the polyps. In October of 1867 I was residing on the eastern side of Praslin; and, taking advantage of the "grandes marées" of that month, I investigated very closely the extensive coral-reefs on the western side of the beautiful little island called Curieuse. My plan was to commence work about two hours before low water. Sending a small pirogue to row beside the outer edge of the reef, which here encircles the land, I used to walk along this edge, attended by Edward, the black captain of my black crew. His duty was to carry glass jars, into which to put my captures, and to help me in my encounters with eels and cuttlefish; while by the aid of the pirogue I could cross over the deep gullies which very frequently occurred in the coral-reef, without the necessity of having to go to the shore so as to get round them. I need scarcely say that even when wading to my waist in the tepid waters, and half a mile from the shore,