

This article was downloaded by: [NSTL]

On: 28 August 2015, At: 10:28

Publisher: Taylor & Francis

Informa Ltd Registered in England and Wales Registered Number:

1072954 Registered office: 5 Howick Place, London, SW1P 1WG



Annals and Magazine of Natural History: Series 1

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tnah07>

XXXVII.—Description of a new genus of pulmonary gasteropods

G.J. Allman M.B. F.R.C.S.I.

Published online: 17 Dec 2009.

To cite this article: G.J. Allman M.B. F.R.C.S.I. (1846) XXXVII.—Description of a new genus of pulmonary gasteropods , Annals and Magazine of Natural History: Series 1, 17:113, 297-299, DOI: [10.1080/037454809495822](https://doi.org/10.1080/037454809495822)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/037454809495822>

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR ARTICLE

Taylor & Francis makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of all the information (the "Content") contained in the publications on our platform. However, Taylor & Francis, our agents, and our licensors make no representations or warranties whatsoever as to the accuracy, completeness, or suitability for any purpose of the Content. Any opinions and views expressed in this publication are the opinions and views of the authors, and are not the views of or endorsed by Taylor & Francis. The accuracy of the Content should not be relied upon and should be independently verified with primary sources of information. Taylor and Francis shall not be liable for any losses, actions, claims, proceedings, demands, costs, expenses, damages, and other liabilities whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly or indirectly in connection with, in relation to or arising out of the use of the Content.

This article may be used for research, teaching, and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproduction, redistribution, reselling, loan, sub-licensing, systematic supply, or distribution in any form to anyone is expressly forbidden. Terms & Conditions of access and use can be found at <http://www.tandfonline.com/page/terms-and-conditions>

cond is occasionally met with ; it is characterized by the spots being of a pure white.

Geomalacus is at once distinguished from *Arion* (to which however it appears to approach more nearly than to *Limax*) by the position of the generative aperture, this orifice being placed in *Arion* just below the entrance to the respiratory chamber, while in *Geomalacus* its position is similar to that in *Limax*, being just behind the base of the smaller tentaculum of the right side. The presence of a solid testaceous rudiment may be placed in conjunction with the last as a character distinguishing it from *Arion* ; though upon this, viewed isolatedly, much stress should not perhaps be laid, as in the last-named genus the rudimental shell would appear sometimes to assume a considerable degree of solidity. From *Limax* the distinction is well-marked, being found in the presence of a caudal muciferous follicle, and in the position of the respiratory orifice anterior to the centre of the lateral margin of the shield ; the total absence of a dorsal keel also is a character by which *Geomalacus* resembles *Arion* rather than *Limax*.

The habits of our mollusk are somewhat curious. It possesses a singular power of elongating itself so as at times to assume the appearance of a worm. By this means it can insinuate itself into apertures which we could scarcely conceive it possible for it to enter. This curious property indeed was very nearly the cause of my losing the first, and at the time the only specimen I had seen. I had placed the mollusk, as I supposed, securely in a botanical collecting-box, when to my surprise I found shortly after that it had transgressed the limits I had assigned it. The creature not liking its confinement had insinuated itself beneath the lid, which not closing very perfectly had afforded for its escape a fissure of about a line in width. I was fortunately in time to recapture my prisoner, and the knowledge which I had thus gained of its habits suggested a stronger prison for the future.

I have since been favoured by Mr. Andrews with numerous very fine healthy specimens from the original locality, where the mollusk is abundant, and beyond which it has not as yet been detected. In an interesting letter which I have received from this gentleman is a highly graphic description of *Geomalacus* among its native rocks. From Mr. Andrews's letter I cannot do better than select the following extract as a conclusion to the present notice :—

“Lake, or Loc Carogh, lies to the south of Castlemain Bay, in the county of Kerry, and stretches nearly north and south five miles. The lake narrows at the centre, where huge cliffs (principally of the old red sandstone group) rise precipitously from the margin on either side to a great height. On the east side

are those of Oulough, formed of enormous blocks of rock promiscuously wedged and resting upon each other, frequently forming caves and pits, the retreat of numerous foxes, and which are screened by the rather gigantic vegetation of *Osmunda regalis*, *Ulex europæus* and *Calluna vulgaris*. The broad surfaces of the rocks are beautifully pictured with a map-like coating of *Lecideæ* and *Lecanora*, and on those rocks within a limited circuit and at the distance of about fifty yards from the water, the *Geomalaci*, on a misty or showery day, may be noticed quiescently stretched, their richly maculated character being strikingly conspicuous. On what they feed I know not; I never could detect them in an eating mood; but I found several amid *Oscillatoria Friesii* and *Hypnum proliferum*, which abound in masses at the shaded bases of those moist rocks. At the opposite and west side is the romantic little Glen of Limnavar, its huge cliffs shaded with a luxuriant indigenous growth of oak (*Quercus sessiliflora*), *Pyrus Aucuparia*, *Populus tremula*, *Betula alba* and *Ilex aquifolium*; and on similar rocks, at the same range from the water, I again met with the *Geomalaci*, particularly the white variety, but more sparingly than at Oulough. On no other rocks around the lake or the country are they to be observed."

XXXVIII.—*Notes on the Altitudinal Range of the Mosses in Aberdeenshire.* By G. DICKIE, M.D., Lecturer on Botany in the University and King's College of Aberdeen*.

SOME time ago an excursion was made into the interior of Aberdeenshire, with the view chiefly of obtaining data for remarks on the altitudinal range of the flowering plants growing in that county. During this journey notes were taken of the range of such Mosses as happened at the time to attract notice. The more prominent results in connexion with flowering plants were published in the 'London Journal of Botany'; those having reference to the Mosses were retained, in the expectation of being able to repeat the observations and measurements made with the mountain sympiesometer, and of adding to the data ascertained at that time. Such an opportunity not having occurred, these remarks have been put together, incomplete although they be, principally with the view of directing attention to this very interesting subject. A few statements are added on the general distribution of the Mosses in Britain, founded chiefly on catalogues of species from several localities, which were sent me by Mr. Ralfs. These lists have reference to the following places:

* Read before the Botanical Society of Edinburgh, 12th March, 1846.