

*dæ* in the following particulars: 1. That the line which indicates the junction of the two edges of the sinus which forms the perforation, instead of being placed on the side of the ridge which supports the cartilage, is placed at a considerable distance from it; 2. The sides of the sinus are firmly soldered together, leaving only a circular hole; 3. The support of the cartilage, instead of being merely a ridge or process, here forms a large elongated subtriangular talus, like that found in the genus *Ostrea*; 4. It differs greatly in the number and form of the muscular scars; the two large ones in the free valves are placed as in the genus *Placunanomia*, and there is a third anterior one in each valve not found in any genus of the family, and very unlike the third scar of the genus *Anomia*. I know only of a single specimen of the genus, which is in the collection of Mr. Cuming, who believes that it came from California. It may be called *Tedinia pernoides*; subquadrangular, reddish, subsquamose, obscurely radiated, internally reddish brown.

## 2. DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF *BULIMUS* FROM AUSTRALIA. BY LOVELL REEVE, F.L.S. ETC.

(Mollusca, Pl. XII.)

**BULIMUS MACONELLI.** *Bul. testâ acuminato-oblongâ, tenuiculâ, subobliquè convolutâ, spirâ brevi, suturis rudibus, anfractibus quatuor ad quinque, minutè et creberrimè spiraliter undulato-striatis, ultimo valdè inflato, columellâ subcontortâ, aperturâ subamplâ, labro simplici; brunneâ, maculis parvis punctisque nigris undique pictâ et seriatim fasciatâ, maculis infra suturas regularibus, aperturâ fauce fuscâ.*

*Hab.* Brisbane, Moreton Bay, Australia.

This fine species has been forwarded to me from the Manchester Museum of Natural History, with the above name attached to it in manuscript, by Captain Brown. It is chiefly remarkable on account of its absolute similarity in texture, in colour, and in pattern, to *Helix Falconari* of the same locality. It appears to differ in nothing but in that difference of convolution which characterizes the respective genera. Mr. Cuming possesses an exactly similar un-umbilicated specimen; and none of several examples of *H. Falconari*, with which it has been compared and which are all largely umbilicated, present any indication of an intermediate form. It is the first instance on record of a strictly typical richly painted *Bulimus* and *Helix* agreeing in colour, in pattern, and in all respects save that of form.

## 3. OBSERVATIONS ON THE DENTITION OF THE TIGER BEETLES. BY J. O. WESTWOOD, PRES. E.S., F.L.S. ETC.

Mr. Westwood directed the attention of the meeting to the necessity which existed of a more precise examination and description of the diversity in the dentition of the mandibles of insects, especially

Hymenoptera and Coleoptera, than had hitherto been bestowed thereon. In the higher orders of animals so much importance had been given to this character, that it was remarkable that, in general, entomologists contented themselves with examining, describing, and figuring a single mandible as affording a sufficient diagnosis of the structure of both of the mandibles, overlooking the necessary result which arose from the circumstance of the horizontal instead of perpendicular action of these organs in insects, and the variation in the position of the teeth which such action must necessarily induce. In general, indeed, the teeth of the mandibles were not greatly developed, and there was a general similarity between the two jaws; but when these organs are of an increased size, and especially when the extremity of one jaw laps over that of the opposite one, a diversity in the dentition will necessarily exist. It was likewise necessary to examine the mandibles of both sexes of a species, as it occasionally happened that there was considerable difference in their dentition. These observations were illustrated by the case of the Tiger Beetles (*Cicindelidae*), which offered a much greater range of diversity in their dentition than had hitherto been supposed. It was chiefly to the genus *Megacephala* that Mr. Westwood directed the attention of the members.

In the type of that genus (*Megacephala senegalensis*, Latr., Dej., *Cic. megalcephala*, Fabr.), an apterous species from Senegal, the right mandible of the male has two large, nearly equal-sized, acute teeth in the middle of the inner margin, the extremity being hooked and very acute; there is also a small tooth at the base of the large, broad, compound basal tooth. The left mandible is nearly similar, except that the two teeth in the middle of the inner margin are unequal in size, the upper one being the smaller of the two. The figure of the jaws of this species, given in the Crochard edition of the *Animal Kingdom* (Ins. pl. 16. f. 2 a), is very incorrect, being apparently reversed. The dentition of the female is almost identical with that of the male. In the allied bat-winged African species, *Megacephala 4-signata*, Dej., from Senegal, the toothing of the mandibles is similarly arranged, but the two teeth in the middle of the inner margin, in both sexes, are broad and obliquely truncate. In the male of *M. euphratica* (which has recently been observed to extend from Spain to India), the teeth are nearly as in *M. senegalensis*, except that the subapical tooth of the left mandible is considerably smaller. But in the species lately received from the north-west of Australasia (*M. Australasiæ*, Hope), we find a different arrangement as well as number in the teeth, the right mandible having three teeth in the middle of the inner margin (exclusive of the small tooth\* at the base of the upper side of the large compound basal tooth), the upper one small, the middle one very small, and lower one large, all being acute. The left mandible has also three teeth in the same position,—the

\* This small tooth exists in all the species, and in both sexes; and as it appears to form part of the great basal tooth, I have omitted noticing it in the descriptions given in this paper.

upper one very small, and the middle and lower one large and nearly equal in size.

On turning to the New-World species of the genus, we find four variations in the dentition of the mandibles; the group of pale species typified by *M. æquinoctialis*, Dej. (*bifasciata*, Brullé), corresponds almost identically in the dentition of both sexes with the old type (*M. senegalensis*), as described above, the right mandible having two equal-sized large acute teeth in the middle of the inner margin, and the left one also two, the upper one being very small. For this group I have proposed the subgeneric name of *Ammosia*, in allusion to their habits, which differ materially from those of the other species.

A black-coloured species from South America (*M. sepulchralis*, Fabr., *M. variolosa*, Dej.) differs from the *Ammosia* in the left mandible, while the inner margin has only one tooth in the middle, of considerable size, and exhibiting on its *under* side a minute tooth, being all that remains of the large middle tooth of the left mandible of the *Ammosia*. This species is the type of Mr. Hope's subgenus *Anaira*.

Another very fine Brazilian species (*M. testudinea*, Klug) differs in the dentition of the sexes in a more striking manner than any of the preceding. The right mandible of the male is long and sickle-shaped, with a small tooth obliquely truncated below the middle of the inner margin, and between this and the tip of the jaw is a minute acute tooth. The left mandible has two teeth on the inner margin above the middle, the lower one broad and acute, but rather obliquely truncate, whilst the upper one is very small. The right mandible of the female, on the contrary, has two very large equal-sized teeth in the middle of the inner margin, whereas the left jaw in this sex is quite similar to that of the male.

There still remains a numerous group of American species (the type of which is *Cic. Carolina*, Linn.), which differ from the rest of their continental brethren in possessing three teeth in the middle of the inner margin of each jaw; thus resembling the Australian species above noticed, and hence I proposed the name of *Tetracha*, or four-toothed, for this group, counting the acute apical portion of the mandible as a fourth tooth. In general, in both sexes, the tooth next below the apex of the jaw is equal in size to, or even larger than, the apical part or tooth itself (thus differing from the Australasian species), and the middle of the three teeth is smaller than the rest; but in the left mandible in the males the tooth below the apical tooth is even still larger, whilst the middle tooth is much smaller, and the lower tooth is quite minute. In the female, on the contrary, the middle one of the three teeth of the inner margin is rather larger than the upper one (which is only of a moderate size), and the lower one is small.

From these particulars (united with the peculiarities of colouring, geographical range and habits of the species) we are enabled to propose well-founded subgenera, a task which has hitherto been considered hopeless in the genera of *Cicindelidæ*. The Old-World spe-

cies thus seem to form only one group, divisible however into still smaller sections from the presence or absence of wings, and form and colouring of the elytra ; the Australian species stands alone ; and the New-World species constitute the four following subgenera :—

AMMOSIA, Westw. Type, *M. bifasciata*, Brullé.

———, Westw. Type, *M. testudinea*, Klug.

ANATRA, Hope. Type, *M. sepulchralis*, Fabr.

TETRACHA, Westw. Type, *M. Carolina*, Linn.

July 8; 1851.

In consequence of the death of the President, no meeting was held on this day.

July 22, 1851.

John Edward Gray, Esq., F.R.S. &c., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The following papers were read :—

1. ON THE LARGEST KNOWN SPECIES OF PHALERIDINE BIRD.  
BY CHARLES LUCIEN, PRINCE BONAPARTE.

(Aves, Pl. XLIV.)

Among the new additions lately made to the British Museum I was struck by one of the *Alcidæ*, which I had never seen before, and which was very properly placed close by two beautiful specimens of my singular *Ceratorrhina*, also lately added to the zoological treasures of the English nation. The bird which is the subject of the present note is evidently the *Labrador Awk* of Latham, so miscalled from the erroneous impression that it came from those eastern shores of America, but too well described not to be recognized. Gmelin compiled his *Alca labradora* from the description of Latham, and all those who did not follow him blindly, have referred that indication to an immature state of the Razor-bill (*Mormon arctica*), a course in which they were led by geographical consideration only. Although our bird belongs to the family of the *Alcidæ*, it is not even an *Alcine*, as the Razor-bill, but, as is shown by the nakedness of the cere, it belongs to the other subfamily, or *Phaleridine*, of which it is at present the largest known.