



XLIX.—Description of *Fairbankia bombayana*, a new genus and species of Rissoidæ from Western India

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belonged to the same *Petaloproctus*. Perhaps *Rhodine Loveni*, Malmgr., also belongs here.

Malmgren follows the *Maldania* with the *Ammocharidea* as a distinct family, founded upon the genus *Ammochoares*. He also describes a second genus, *Myriochele*, which seems almost to coincide with *Psammocollus*, Gr., but gives no character of the family, at least in his most recent work ('*Annulata polychæta Spitzbergiæ*' &c.). Kinberg, who establishes the same family, finds its character in the tentaculiform branchiæ seated on the buccal segment, in a change of bristles, and in the presence of superior setæ, and very numerous and minute uncini placed below them. The author would indicate (at the same time bringing together *Ammochoares* and *Psammocollus*) that the body consists of only a few segments, increasing considerably in length towards the middle, that these are all furnished with setæ, and, with the exception of the foremost and hindmost, also with uncini (which, however, are placed in more than double and irregular rows, and not upon cushions), and that the buccal and terminal segments bear no plates, although the buccal segment may be produced in front into a lobe (cephalic lobe?) slit up into branches at the anterior margin. Their similarity to the *Maldania*, already treated of, strikes one at once; but with this conception of the character, Kinberg's genus *Sandanis*, as to the position of which he seems to be still doubtful, cannot be added to them; it should not be separated from *Capitella*.

To *Ammochoares* belong 4 species:—*A. ottonis*, Gr., *A. assimilis*, Sars, *A. tegula*, Kinb., and *A. Sundevalli*, Kinb., the last known only by its anterior part.

Of *Psammocollus* we know only one species, *P. australis*, Gr., from the island of St. Paul; and of *Myriochele* likewise only one, *Myriochele Heeri*, Malmgr., which has been observed, but not abundantly, at Spitzbergen and Greenland.

XLIX.—*Description of Fairbankia bombayana, a new Genus and Species of Rissoidæ from Western India.* By WILLIAM T. BLANFORD, A.R.S.M., F.G.S., C.M.Z.S.

THE shell described below is one of the numerous peculiar estuarine forms so common on the shores of tropical seas. I have found but few specimens myself, and am indebted for a much larger number to the Rev. S. Fairbank and Dr. Leith. The latter very kindly procured me some living specimens about five years since. I had for a long time supposed the species to be a *Rissoa*; but two years ago I had occasion to

examine it more closely in connexion with the estuarine Rissoid genus *Iravadia*, and I then found that the present form showed distinctions not only from *Rissoa* proper, but also from all the other genera of Rissoidæ previously described.

FAIRBANKIA, nov. gen.

Animal tentaculis longis filiformibus; oculis ad basin tentaculorum sessilibus; proboscide elongata; pede antice lato, sinuato, postice rotundato.

Testa imperforata, turrita, epidermide fusca induta; apertura sub-ovali, antice rotundata; peristomate leviter dilatato, margine externo acuto, sed extus variciformi-incrassato. *Operculum* corneum, subovale, subannulare; nucleo excentrico, juxta medium lateris columellaris posito, intus costa elongata verticali munitum.

This genus combines the epidermis and, to a great extent, the animal of *Hydrobia* with the peristome of a *Rissoa*, while the operculum differs from that of any other of the Rissoidæ, and approaches that of *Rissoella*.

From *Rissoa* the present genus is distinguished by its thick epidermis, straight smooth columella, and by the characters of the operculum,—from *Barleeia*, to which Dr. Stoliczka (*Palæontologia Indica*, v. p. 274) considers it very nearly allied, by its epidermis, its externally thickened peristome, by its operculum being horny and devoid of any long pointed apophysis (both genera have an internal raised rib), and by several distinctions in the form of the animal, such as the possession of long filiform tentacles, whilst those of *Barleeia* are described as short, broad, and rounded at the tips. From *Hydrobia* the operculum and thickened peristome amply distinguish the present genus.

On the whole, I am myself strongly disposed to believe that the most closely allied genus is that which I described recently as *Iravadia* (*Journ. As. Soc. Bengal* for 1867, vol. xxxvi. pt. 2. p. 56), from the estuary of the Irawady River. The operculum and animal of that genus are unknown: the shell possesses an epidermis, and has an external varix to the peristome; but the whorls are deeply sulcated, and the aperture is effuse in front, showing some approximation in form to that of *Rissoina*.

Fairbankia bombayana, n. sp.

Testa imperforata, non rimata, turrita, solidula, albida, lineis confertis spiralibus striisque incrementi minute decussata, epidermide fusco-olivacea induta. Spira lateribus convexiusculis, apice papillari, interdum erosulo, sutura impressa. Anfr. 7, convexi, ultimus subtus rotundatus. Apertura subovata, postice angulata; peristomatibus marginibus conjunctis, externo medioeriter expanso,

varice externo forti. Operculum normale; costa interna ad ambas extremitates torta.

Long. 7, diam. vix 3 mill.; ap. $2\frac{1}{2}$ mill. longa, $1\frac{2}{3}$ lata.

Habitat Bombay.

Some specimens are smaller than the above: one with only five whorls remaining (one, at least, having been lost by erosion) measures only 5 millimetres in length by 2 in diameter.

The specimens found by myself were living on mud between tide-marks on the shore of Bombay Harbour. I believe Dr. Leith's and Mr. Fairbank's specimens were from the same locality. The principal Mollusca associated with them were species of *Assimineæ*, *Hamineæ*, and *Ampullarina*.

L.—On *Elachista stellaris*, a Seaweed new to the British Flora. By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S., V.P.Z.S., &c.

MRS. ALFRED GATTY has submitted to my examination some specimens, and some very accurate pen-and-ink sketches, of a species of *Elachista* which she regards as different from any that has hitherto been described as inhabiting the English coast. Mrs. A. Gatty discovered it growing on *Arthrocladia* on the Cardigan-Bay side of the Carnarvonshire promontory, at Pwllheli, and four miles further west at Llandwrog.

At first I thought that it might be the long-sought-for *E. curta* of Dillwyn in a more perfect condition, a plant that has not been recognized on the English coast for the last fifty years. On careful comparison with the description in Agardh's 'Species, Genera et Ordines Algarum' (vol. i. p. 9) there was no doubt that it is the *Elachista stellaris* of Areschoug's 'Dried Scandinavian Algæ' (part 3. no. 71), described in his paper in the 'Linnæa,' xvi. p. 233.

Elachista stellaris is known from all the other species of the genus by the filaments being nearly simple, radiating from a small, dense, hemispherical tubercle; the threads are rather narrowed below, and very much attenuated and produced into a long slender tip above; the joints of the lower part of the thread are as wide as long, and of the upper part two or three times as long as wide; the spore is oval, shortly pedicelled.

Dillwyn, in his 'British Confervæ,' described and figured a species under the name of *Conferva curta* (t. 76), which he says is not uncommon at Swansea. Knowing that Mrs. Story Maskelyne had the whole or part of her grandfather's collection, I wrote to her, requesting that I might be allowed to examine one of Mr. Dillwyn's original specimens; but, unfortunately, the part of the collection that she possesses does not