

I have two specimens, presented to me by W. T. L. Travers, Esq., of Wellington, who captured one of them in the theatre, and the other in his garden at Wellington; and one specimen presented to me by Professor Hutton, of Dunedin, and captured I believe at Wellington. Such are the only specimens that have come to my knowledge.

The form of the central and submarginal fasciæ reminds me of the heraldic arms of the Isle of Man, and has suggested the name of *manxifera* for this species.

I have given a drawing (fig. 2') from a specimen (in my collection) of *C. egregia*, of Felder,* for the purpose of facilitating comparison with *manxifera*.

The genus appears to me doubtful, for although my specimens of *C. egregia* entirely resemble Felder's figure, neither they nor any specimen of *manxifera* clearly agree—particularly as to the palpi and the shape of the tip of the fore-wing—with the genus *Chlenias*, as described in Walker's British Museum List;† nor do they clearly agree—particularly as to the hind-wing—with the family *Ligida* (comprising the genus *Chlenias*) as described in that List.

ART. XXIX.—*Note and Description of a possibly new Species of Aplysia.*

By F. H. MEINERTZHAGEN.

[Read before the Hawke's Bay Philosophical Institute, 17th May, 1879.]

ANIMAL a dark brown (kelp colour), spotted all over with grey pepper coloured spots. The edges of the lower lobe of the mantle marked evenly with alternate darker brown and grey. The lobe covering the shell striped with grey, all of which stripes point to, and narrow towards, the apex of the shell. Posterior sides of upper tentacles also a peppery grey colour. Shell faintly but finely striated concentrically, horny and flexible at the edges.

Length of shell 1.15 inches, breadth 0.65 inches. Length of animal about 5 inches.

Habitat: Waimarama, Hawke's Bay.

The above animal appears to me to differ in colouring from *A. brunnea*, described by Capt. F. W. Hutton.‡ The shell also appears to me to differ in its measurements from those given by Capt. Hutton, and in appearance from that figured in his plate, being much longer in comparison with its breadth.

* Reise der Nov., Lep. V., Pl. CXXXI., Fig. 24. † Lep. Het., XXIV., p. 1150.

‡ Trans. N.Z. Inst., Vol. VII., p. 279.

The coarse striations and shape of the shell of *A. venosa* leave no doubt that my specimens differ from that animal.

All my specimens discharged the purple fluid (which is characteristic of the genus) on being placed in fresh water, or otherwise annoyed. I noticed also that the lower lobes, which some authors say are used in swimming by this genus, are only used in that way by this species in a very qualified sense. They attach themselves to a rock or to sea-weed by their tail, and allow their body to drift about, simply guiding the direction of their body, and maintaining their upright position, by the movement of the lobes.

As in *Parmophorus*, *Bulla* and *Haliotis* the shells of younger individuals were much larger in relation to their bodies than those of mature age.

The two species, *A. brunnea* and *A. venosa*, are, as far as I am aware, the only species of this family recorded in New Zealand; Capt. Hutton, in his "List of the Marine Mollusca of New Zealand," mentions a single shell from the Bay of Islands. The habitats given for his two species are Wellington and Dunedin.

The occurrence of this Mollusc in this Province is therefore worth recording, even if it should prove to belong to one of those two species. If as I think, it is new, it *requires* to be put on record. I have, however, not had the advantage of seeing specimens of either of the above-mentioned species, so that I cannot definitely state the fact that it is new.

Should it be so, I suggest that it should receive the name *Aplysia tryonii*, as a gentleman of the name of Tryon discovered it here, where I have (I trust not unobservantly in matters connected with conchology) lived for 11 years without having observed it.

ART. XXX.—On *Anas gracilis*, Buller.

By Professor HUTTON, of the Otago University.

[Read before the Otago Institute, 14th October, 1879.]

THE Otago Museum has lately received from Paris a specimen of *Querquedula gibberifrons*, Müller, from Celebes, and on comparing it with a specimen of *Anas gracilis*, Buller, from Otago, I find so many points of difference that I am compelled to call in question Dr. Finsch's identification of the two birds.

In *Q. gibberifrons* the breadth of the bill at its base is equal to its height; while in *A. gracilis* it is higher than broad at the base. In *Q. gibberifrons* the wing is shorter, and the middle toe is longer than in *A. gracilis*. There are also the following differences in colour: in *Q. gibberifrons* the