

that *P. bivaricosus*, and the other species, herein touched on, do not resemble any of the *Bulimi* of New Guinea so far as known.

Placostylus is not known to occur on Norfolk Island; and considering the position of the latter between New Zealand, Lord Howe Island, and New Caledonia, with the numerical preponderance of *Placostylus* where it is found, we are afforded further food for reflection on this important subject.

It is interesting to note that the geological occurrence of *P. senilis*, Gassies, in the Isle of Pines and Koutoumo Island, New Caledonia, is very similar to that of var. *senilis* at Lord Howe Island, in a sand-rock overlying an upheaved coral reef, and inferior to the present surface soil of the islands.*

In the course of these investigations I have been assisted with several important suggestions by Messrs. J. Brazier and C. Hedley, which have led up to the views enunciated.

THE LAND AND FRESH-WATER SHELLS OF LORD HOWE ISLAND.

By C. HEDLEY, F.L.S.

(Plates xxi. - xxii.)

IN the Memoirs of the Australian Museum, No. 2, "Lord Howe Island," a sketch will be found on pp. 22 - 30 of the molluscan fauna of the island, illustrated by plates 4 and 5, which were, by an unfortunate accident, reversed. Stress of professional duties has prevented Mr. Brazier from completing this outline by detailed descriptions of the species there enumerated, and, greatly to the disadvantage of conchological science, that portion of the work dealing with fluviatile and terrestrial shells is now undertaken by the present writer.

On glancing over the species inhabiting the island, the most noticeable feature is that they are all endemic, while the absence of ubiquitous species like the *Truncatellæ* indicate that further search would augment the roll. To the eye of an Australian student the types are unfamiliar, and old acquaintances are conspicuous by their absence. Here, the operculates are largely represented, in Australia they are a foreign intrusive element confined to the north-east border, where they increase with every degree of latitude as Torres Straits are approached. Neither are

* Gassies, *loc. cit.*, Pt. ii., p. 67.