

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW AND NOTES ON OTHER  
AUSTRALIAN POLYPLACOPHORA.

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(Plates lxxiii.-lxxiv.)

LEPIDOPLEURUS BADIUS, *sp. nov.*

(Plate lxxiii., figs. 1-2.)

Shell small, broad in proportion to length, rather low, rounded dorsally. Sculpture uniformly grain-striate. Colour entirely ochraceous, the valve margin sometimes rust.

Anterior valve densely radially grained.

Median valves narrow with a straight posterior edge, central and jugal areas confluent, lateral areas indistinctly indicated by a slight fold. About fifty grain-rows to a valve, medially about a dozen grains are close set in a row, but wider apart from row to row, the rows longitudinal in the middle, converging at the sides, and losing their regularity on the lateral areas.

Posterior valve with central elevated apex and concave posterior slope.

Girdle beset with small chaffy scales, fringed with spicules.

Interior white, sutural plates rounded, jugal sinus very broad and shallow. Insertion plates entirely absent. Length, 6; breadth, 3.5 mm.

*Station.*—Under stones in sheltered pools at low water.

*Habitat.*—Balmoral and Shark Island (Port Jackson); Long Reef near Narrabeen. Though a rare shell, fifteen specimens were found under one small stone at Long Reef. The body of the animal is of a deep red colour.

*Affinities.*—Related to *L. matthewsianus*, Bednall,<sup>1</sup> from St. Vincent Gulf, South Australia, but distinguished by the darker colour, broader shape and coarser granules of *L. badius*, and especially by the direction of the grain-rows on the lateral areas. In *L. matthewsianus* the rows are oblique to those of the central area, but in *L. badius* they are confused. In *L. matthewsianus* the apex of the posterior valve is nearer the margin.

A more distant relation is the New Zealand *L. inquinatus*, Reeve,<sup>2</sup> in which the lateral areas are differentiated by small crowded grains set in rows oblique to those of the central area.

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<sup>1</sup> Bednall—Proc. Malacol. Soc., vii., 1906, p. 92, pl. ix., f. 1.

<sup>2</sup> Sykes—Proc. Malacol. Soc., ii., 1896, p. 86., pl. vi., f. 4.