

AUSTRALIAN MOLLUSCAN NOTES.

No. 2.

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(Plates xx—xxiv.)

MANY of the shells described in "Australian Molluscan Notes, No. 1*" were derived from dredgings dumped at Dundas, on the Parramatta River. Owing to the depression, the operations of the dredge "Triton" have been suspended for the past three years, and, for the same reason, the trawling fleet, another prolific source of interesting material, has not been working continuously. Nevertheless, consideration of the forms obtained from the Dundas dump, and the results of a few successful finds, necessitate a number of notes, and a large number of records has accrued.

I again have to thank Miss J. Allan and Mr. G. C. Clutton, whose drawings and photographs make the species very easy to distinguish when specimens are compared.

Cucullaea vaga Iredale.

(Plate xx, fig. 1.)

Mr. W. L. Dingeldei has been collecting specimens obtained from Captain K. Moller, and anything strange he has brought in to the Museum. Through his efforts most of the trawled novelties have been secured. A nice valve of *C. vaga* is here figured, procured off Shoalhaven Bight in about forty-five fathoms, a southernmost record, the species having been described from off Norah Head, north of Sydney. This specimen shows the deeper shell and the coarser sculpture well, the latter even showing obsolescence. Mr. Bernhard, of Rockhampton, has sent specimens from Keppel Bay, indicating that the northern and southern species overlap about that locality. One shell agrees with the figure here given, but the other is larger, more elongate, the ventral margin swollen medially, and the sculpture consists of many fine radials closely packed and almost beaded laterally through the numerous concentric lines that usually only slightly cut the radials.

Family ARCIDAE.

I have reviewed the Queensland members of this family in a report on the Mollusca of Low Isles, to be published later, but will here comment on the New South Wales species, which had to be studied simultaneously. A well-known northern species straggles as far south as New South Wales, but is not included in Hedley's local catalogue. It was listed in the Queensland fauna as *Arca foliata* Forskal, and G. P. Whitley and I made a good collection of valves from the beach at Caloundra in order to study the variation. I found that two species had been confused. One was pure white with coarse sculpture on the posterior angulate portion, and the other had that area finely sculptured and coloured red-brown, the former being the *foliata* and the latter the *fasciata* of Hedley's list. Later it was found that the white shell of the coral reefs, also called *foliata*, was different from both, and the problems involved have been worked out in the paper above cited.

A few complete specimens of *Arca metella* Hedley have been secured on the Continental Shelf, and these prove to belong to no known group. They show the right valve to be the smaller and clasped by the left, and a well-marked median

* For No. 1, see Records of the Australian Museum, Vol. xviii, No. 4, 1931, p. 201.