

A NEW WEST INDIAN FOSSIL LAND SHELL.

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Among a lot of kitchen midden marine shells collected by Theodoor de Booy on Salt River, North Coast of St. Croix, and submitted to the United States National Museum for determination, is the shell of a *Pleurodonte* belonging to the Section *Caracollus*. A critical comparison shows it to be quite distinct from all the other known members of the group. I therefore name it:

PLEURODONTE DEBOOYI, new species.

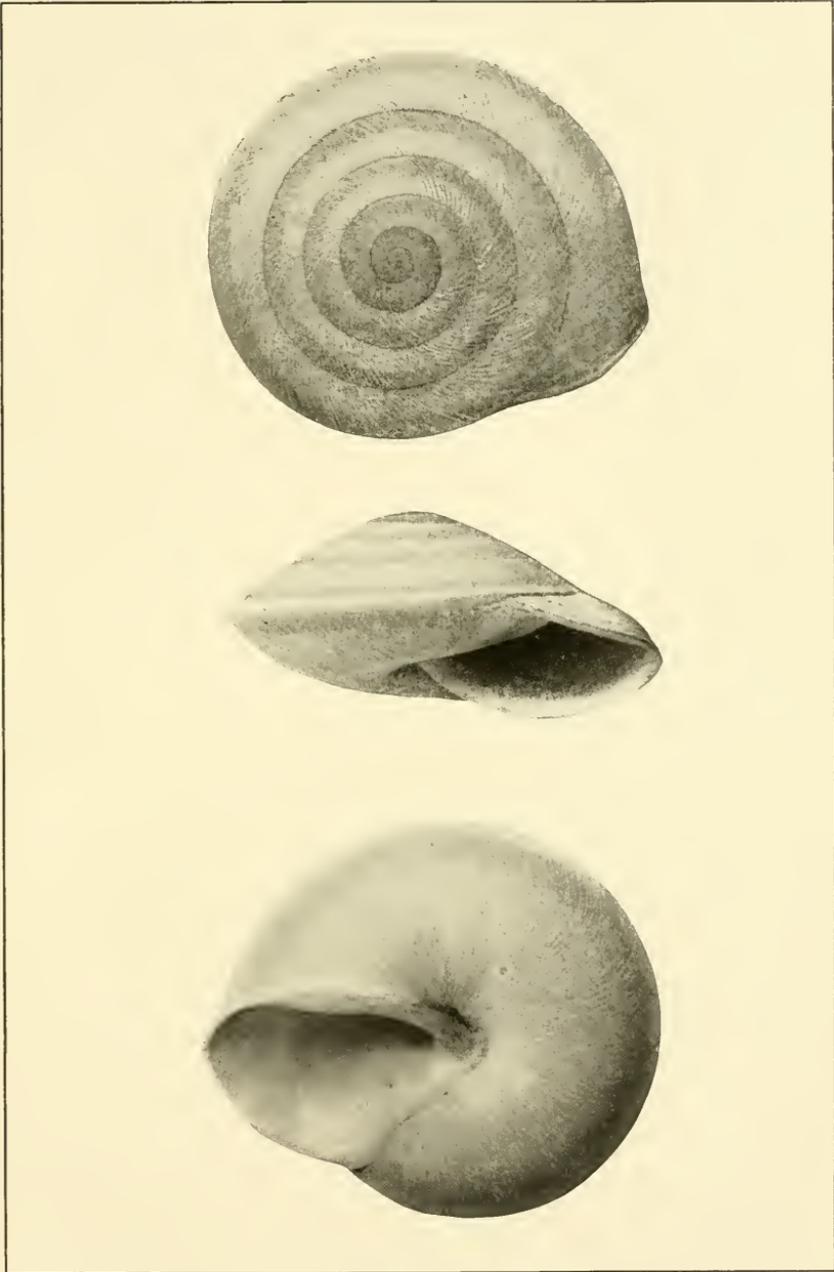
Plate 93.

Shell large, very broadly conic, depressed above and well rounded below. Upper surface grayish-white excepting the nuclear turns, which are rusty brown; and a band of the same color about one-fifth as wide as the whorl situated about half the width of the dark band posterior to the periphery. The basal side is of the same general color as the upper and bears a rusty spiral band a little distance anterior to the periphery. All the whorls are flattened. Suture scarcely indicated, not at all impressed. Periphery strongly carinated. Base slightly inflated, strongly rounded, with a narrow, shallow, impressed umbilical pit. Aperture subtriangular, oblique; outer lip thickened at the edge, the upper less so than the basal, the latter as well as the columellar portion much thickened and reflected; parietal wall covered with a thin callus. Entire surface both above and below marked by moderately strong, decidedly re-tractively curved incremental lines and the exceedingly fine, crinkly, crisscross markings characteristic of all the members of the section.

The type (Cat. No. 218039, U.S.N.M.), was collected by Mr. Theodoor de Booy in kitchen midden deposits on Salt River in northern St. Croix, West Indies. It has six whorls and measures—altitude, 26 mm.; greater diameter, 58 mm.; lesser diameter, 49 mm.

In the flattening of the upper surface of the whorls the present species suggests *Pleurodonte (Caracollus) angistoma* Ferussac from Haiti, but the under surface is entirely different, for in *Pleurodonte (Caracollus) angistoma* there is no umbilical depression. The only other form which approaches it in the flattening of the whorls is the Haitian *Pleurodonte (Caracollus) sarcocheila* but even in that they are not so flat as in the new form, nor does it have as strong an umbilical depression as the present species; in that character this approaches most nearly *Pleurodonte (Caracollus) caracolla*.

It is quite possible that the present species is the fossil *Pleurodonte carocolla* previously reported from St. Croix. The existence of a member of the *Caracollus* section on this island argues strongly for a former land connection from St. Croix to Porto Rico and the island of Vieques, in both of which it is also represented, in spite of the deep water existing at this present time between them and St. Croix. Likewise, the presence of members of the group in Haiti and Santo Domingo is equally strong evidence of former land connection across the channel that now separates them.



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FOR DESCRIPTION OF PLATE SEE PAGE 605

