

Notice of the Mya nodulosa, Wood.

BY ISAAC LEA.

In the examination of the Molluses of the Imperial Cabinet of Vienna, I observed a specimen of the family *Naiades*, which I immediately recognized to be the *Mya nodulosa*, described and figured by Wood, (General Conchology and Index Testaceorum), and which was placed by me among the nodulous *Uniones* in my Synopsis.

The form, thickness and nodulous character of this shell, is so much like that of *Unio pustulosus*, nobis, that it has been thought to be the same. I gave it a distinct place in my Synopsis (Ed. 3d, p. 22) with a note doubting it to be an "American species," meaning North American. The locality was unknown to Mr. Wood; and Mr. Traüfeld, the able zoologist, under whose charge this department of the Museum is placed, is entirely ignorant from whence the specimen was received, it having been in the establishment during the period of the late Mr. Mühlfeld's administration and without locality. Unhappily, therefore, neither of the two known specimens can be traced to their habitat.* The inspection of the specimen, however, enabled me at once to place the species in its proper position in the system, the teeth, particularly the lateral ones, having equal and parallel striæ as in the genus *Prisodon*, Schum.=*Castalia*, Lam. The cardinal and lateral teeth are both robust, and of the form of the ponderous subrotund *Uniones*, but the deeply impressed striæ separate it from that genus and place it in *Prisodon*. When Schumaker proposed his genus *Prisodon*, and Lamarck that of *Castalia* for the same shell afterwards, there was but one species known. It is true that D'Orbigny proposed two others, *quadrilatera* and *inflata*, but I recognize these only as variations. The genus *Prisodon* will now, if I be correct in my inductions, consist of three distinct species, each one belonging to a well characterized group, viz.: the plicate, nodulous and smooth divisions, and they will stand in the following order.

(Plicate.) *Prisodon truncates*, Schum.=*Castalia ambigua*, Lam.

(Smooth.) *Prisodon Duprei*, Lea=*Castalia Duprei*, Recluz.

(Nodulous.) *Prisodon nodulosus*, Lea=*Mya nodulosa*, Wood.

The Committee on Prof. Baird and Mr. Girard's descriptions of new Fishes from the river Zuni, reported in favor of publication.

Descriptions of some new Fishes from the River Zuni.

By S. F. BAIRD and CHARLES GIRARD.

The species of fishes here described as new, were caught in the Zuni River, New Mexico, by Dr. S. W. Woodhouse, while attached as Surgeon and Naturalist to the expedition of Capt. Seetgreaves, for the exploration of Zuni and its tributaries. Full descriptions with figures will be shortly published in the official report of Capt. Sitgreaves.

They belong to the Cyprinoid family, and constitute a new genus which we propose to call

GILA.

Characterized by its subfusiform and compressed body, its more or less arched back, especially in large individuals, and by its extreme attenuation posteriorly. The peduncle of the tail is rather slender. The head is much depressed, proportionally small, its upper outline concave, and its snout elongated. Eyes circular or elliptical. The mouth is small or of medium size, the upper jaw generally overlapping the lower, so as to conceal its cleft from above. No barbels or rudiments of barbels at the angle of the mouth. Pharyngeal teeth oblique, compressed, disposed on two rows with their tip slightly hooked. Branchial

* The specimen has the fine nacre of the South American *Naiades*, and I have little doubt but that it inhabits the same country with the other two species.

arches four on each side. Branchiostegal rays six in number, three on either side. Scales varying in size according to the regions; small and not imbricated on the back, large and imbricated on the flanks, and of medium size on the belly and tail. Lateral line well marked, forming an open curve on the abdomen and straight on the tail. Caudal fin forked or crescentic, generally unicolor; the tints of the back, flanks and abdomen merely varying in intensity.

1. *GILA ROBUSTA*, B. and G.—Body very much swollen anteriorly, and tapering very suddenly from the dorsal fin to the insertion of the caudal. Head very much depressed above, sloping very rapidly from the nape to the snout, and forming one fourth of the entire length. Eyes proportionally small and subcircular. Mouth tolerably large; the posterior branch of the maxillary does not reach the vertical line of the pupil. Dorsal fin situated on the middle of the back, and a little higher than long. Caudal crescentic. Anal situated behind the dorsal. Insertion of ventrals in advance of the anterior margin of the dorsal. The posterior tip of the pectorals does not reach the insertion of the ventrals. All the soft rays are bifurcated. Lateral line composed of about ninety scales. Color greyish brown above, lighter beneath.

Formula of the fins: D I. 9. C 8. I. 8. S. I. 7. A I. 9. V I. 9. P 15.

2. *GILA ELEGANS*, B. and G.—Closely allied to the preceding species. Its body, however, is more slender, and its tail proportionally more elongated. The caudal fin is more deeply emarginate and more developed, as indeed are all the fins. The head is very much depressed and flattened on the snout. Eyes elliptical. The scales are proportionally more elongated than in the preceding species and are broader anteriorly than posteriorly; the lateral line has about ninety of them. The number of rays in the fins affords also a distinctive mark between both species. The ventrals have no rudiment of spiny ray. Color light brown.

Fin rays: D III. 9. C 9. I. 9. I. 10. A III. 10. V 9. P 16.

3. *GILA GRACILIS*, B. and G.—This species is proportionally shorter, deeper, and more compressed than its congeners. It reminds us, in shape and general appearance, of the "Shiner" (*Leuciscus americanus*). Both the dorsal and anal fins are provided anteriorly, as in *G. elegans*, with three rudimentary spiny rays. The scales are rather small, very thin: there are from 80 to 90 of them in the lateral line. The relative position of the fins is the same as in the other species of this genus. Color yellowish brown.

Fin rays: D III. 8. C 8. I. 11. I. 7. A III. 8. V I. 8. P 16.

The Committee on Mr. Cassin's "Catalogue of the Hirundinidæ in the Collection of the Academy," reported in favor of publication in the Proceedings. (See end of this Number.)

The Committee on Mr. Cassin's descriptions of new Swallows and Parrots in the Collection of the Academy, reported in favor of publication.

Descriptions of new species of Hirundinidæ and Psittacidæ, specimens of which are in the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

BY JOHN CASSIN.

I. HIRUNDINIDÆ.

1. *CYPSELUS SQUAMATUS*, *nobis*.

Form. About the size and general form of *C. ambrosiacus* and *C. parvus*. Bill rather broad at base, curved, wings and tail long, the latter forked, toes and claws strong.

Dimensions. Total length (of skin) from tip of bill to end of tail about 5 inches, wing $4\frac{1}{2}$, tail 3 inches.

Colors. Entire plumage of upper parts greenish black with a slight greenish