

THE ANNALS
AND
MAGAZINE OF NATURAL HISTORY,

INCLUDING
ZOOLOGY, BOTANY, AND GEOLOGY.

BEING A CONTINUATION OF THE 'ANNALS' COMBINED WITH LOUDON AND
CHARLESWORTH'S 'MAGAZINE OF NATURAL HISTORY.'

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XXXIII.—Notes on some Scotch Zoophytes and Polyzoa. By WYVILLE T. C. THOMSON, Sec. R.P.S., F.B.S.E., Lecturer on Botany, King's College, Aberdeen.

[With a Plate.]

SIR, Bonyde near Linlithgow, Jan. 12, 1852.

IN going over some of the Scotch Zoophytes and Polyzoa, I have met with several species, partially described by Sir John Graham Dalyell, in his 'Rare and Remarkable Animals of Scotland.' Some of these species appear to be new, and others it is not very easy, without a little consideration, to identify. Of one of the former I send you a sketch and description; of two others, *Sertularia fascis* and *Triticella flava*, I hope to have something to say shortly, but a few observations are still wanting.

To Richard Taylor, Esq.

POLYZOA INFUNDIBULATA.

VESICULARINA. Fam. VESICULARIADÆ.

AVENELLA, Dalyell.

Diag. Polypidom confervoid, filiform, very much attenuated, creeping, nearly simple. Cells large, solitary, irregularly scattered, sub-unilateral, slightly contracted towards the apex, curved.

Animal an ascidian mollusk with from twenty to twenty-four ciliated tentacula; gizzard small.

A. Dalyellii, Wy. T. Cells slightly rough with scattered, patent, horny bristles. Plate XVI. B.

Sir John Dalyell, in the 2nd vol. of his 'Remarkable Animals,' bestowed upon this mollusk *provisionally* the name of *Avenella fusca*. "*Fusca*" is not a very appropriate specific name, as all the species belonging to the genus, yet to be discovered, will probably have an equal claim to the title. As Sir John has as yet no namesake among a race whose manners and customs he so carefully studied, I have taken the liberty of proposing in preference the specific name "*Dalyellii*," a tribute due to his labours in an obscure and unfrequented path.

One of the largest and most conspicuous of our Vesicularian Polyzoa, I have found *Avenella Dalyellii* very abundantly at some seasons among the rejectamenta of the oyster dredges at Newhaven, covering with dense tangled masses *Thoa muricata*, *halecina*, *Beanii*, and other corallines from rather deep water. I met with it once on *Sertularia margareta*, off Port Appin, Argyllshire, and twice among rejectamenta from the Dogger Bank.

The mollusk is, like all the rest of its family, very persistent.

I have dried many specimens on mica with the tentacula expanded. It appears to be, like others of its class, a delicate animal, and does not survive long in captivity.

A sertularian zoophyte noticed by Dalyell under the name of *Sertularia Arcta*, and described by Dr. Hassall as *Coppinia mirabilis*, is frequent in the Firth of Forth, much more so in deep water off Aberdeen, and has been met with by my friend Mr. Peach off Peterhead. It seems to be absent from the west coast of Scotland. Great confusion exists with regard to the synonymy of this species. It is confounded with *Campanularia intertexta* of Couch, a true *Campanularia*.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
WYVILLE T. C. THOMSON.

P.S. To aid in clearing up some doubts with regard to the distribution of the Urchin, *Arachnoides placenta*, I think it right to notice a specimen received from the Burmese coast.—
W. T. C. T.

XXXIV.—*Characters of new species of Helix from Southern India and Bengal.* By W. H. BENSON, Esq.

BEFORE proceeding to the descriptions of the following species, I may remark that, with the exception of *Succinea Imperialis*, nobis (proving to be a variety of Dr. Pfeiffer's *S. picta*, with which I was unacquainted in consequence of the delayed publication of the 'Zoological Proceedings' of 1849), and of *Helix Orobia*, *solata*, *Ampulla*, *cacuminifera*, *crinigera*, and *acuducta*, nobis, the whole of the *Helicidæ* described in my papers contained in former numbers of this Journal have been figured by Dr. Pfeiffer for the Martini-Chemnitz Conchylien Cabinet. The name of *H. munda*, nobis, has been altered by that author to *H. cerea*, Pfr., the former designation having been applied in 1849, by the American conchologist, Adams, to a Jamaican shell. The *Helices* which I had omitted to take with me to Germany will be figured in Lovell Reeve's 'Conchologia Iconica.' *H. regalis*, nobis, from Borneo, was subsequently given in the 'Zoology of the Samarang,' as *H. vittata*, A. & B., a name which had been long applied to a Ceylonese species. The brown variety has now been portrayed under the correct name of *H. regalis* (no. 426, plate 80 of *Helix*) in the 'Conchologia Iconica;' but in neither instance have the obsolete nodulose costæ on the intermediate whorls of the spire been represented.

1. *Helix Cysis*, nobis, n. sp.

Testa anguste et profunde umbilicata, sinistrorsa, depresso-globosa,

