

umbonal ridges closely and strongly granulated; anterior side semi-ovate; posterior side obliquely truncate; dorsal margin posteriorly sloping, anteriorly slightly convex; umbonal ridge raised, obtusely angulate and slightly curved; ventral margin a little arcuated; hinge with the cartilage-processes small; pallial sinus deep, extending beyond the umbones and nearly to the middle of the shell.

Long. $11\frac{1}{2}$, alt. 6, lat. 3 lines.

Hab. Port Jackson, dredged off the "Sow and Pigs" reef, in four fathoms water (*Brazier*).

6. On a new Species of *Haliotis* from New South Wales.

By J. C. Cox, M.D., C.M.Z.S.

HALIOTIS HARGRAVESI, COX.

Shell orbicularly ovate, spire much raised, rather thin, flatly depressed in the centre between the spire and the perforations, longitudinally strongly ribbed, with nine to ten ribs, which are flat and coarsely lamellose on the surface, intercostal spaces scarcely scabrous, perforations long and tubular, five open; internal surface longitudinally grooved, the depressions corresponding with the raised ribs without; exterior variegated with red and olive-green, within silvery.

Length $1\frac{2}{10}$ inch, breadth $\frac{9}{10}$ inch.

Hab. Broken-Bay Heads, north coast of New South Wales.

7. Note on *Ianthella*, a new Genus of Keratose Sponges.

By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S., V.P.Z.S.

Several of the older naturalists, as Rumphius (*Amb. Rar.* t. 80. f. 1), Seba (*Thesaurus*, iii. t. 95. f. 2-4), and perhaps Petiver (*Gazoph.* ii. t. 32. f. 1), figure a horny netted marine sponge, for which Pallas (*Zoophytes*, 320) adopted the name of *Spongia flabelliformis*, given by Seba to his first figure (t. 95. f. 2). Under this name a good specimen of it is figured by Esper in his 'Zoophytes,' t. 13.

The frond looks much more like the very slender netted axis of a species of Venus's Fan (*Rhipidogorgia*) stripped of its bark than a sponge.

Carefully collected and well-preserved specimens of this sponge are more or less covered with a quantity of dried mucilaginous sarcode, that fills up the spaces between the horny network, and covers the frond with a black polished coat.

It is doubtless a peculiar form of keratose sponges, most likely the type of a separate family.

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This genus and the sponges which I described at a preceding Meeting under the name of *Ceratella*, &c., are peculiar in that the skeleton, though formed of a horny substance, is so dense that it does not, as in the generality of horny sponges, become softened and more flexible by being soaked in water; and, unlike the common sponges of commerce, they do not imbibe the water. But I suspect that many of the sponges with a hard, thick, black, horny network will be found to be unchanged by being soaked.

There is no appearance of any pores for inhaling or oscules for emitting the water in the dry specimen.

Being desirous of having it more carefully examined than the state of my eyes allows me to undertake, I sent a fragment of the specimen received from Capt. Sir Everard Home to Mr. M. C. Cooke, of the India-House Museum. He reports to me as follows:—

1. That he has not been able to discover any trace of siliceous or calcareous spicules.

2. It is dissolved away by acid.

3. In *liquor potassæ* it gives a bright violet-colour, like that of *Roccella* and other orchil-lichens.

IANTHELLA.

Sponge frondose, expanded on a plane, flat, fan-like or funnel-shaped; black, when dry more or less covered with dry, black, mucilaginous sarcode, that often fills up the spaces between the horny network, and gives it a black polished appearance. Root expanded; stem very thick, compressed, formed of interlaced filaments, expanded above into a broad flat frond entirely composed of rather thick, compressed, parallel ribs or branches, slightly diverging from the base towards the margin; some of these are once or twice forked in their length. These ribs or branches are united into a network with a square mesh by very short, subcylindrical, thinner, equal-sized, diverging, compressed branchlets.

* *Frond flat, expanded.* Ianthella.

1. IANTHELLA FLABELLIFORMIS.

B.M.

Sponge flabellate, expanded, oblong, fan-shaped, with a single thick stem; fibres of the network slender.

Flabellum marinum, Rumphius, Herb. Amb. vi. 208, t. 80. f. 1 (good).

Spongia flabelliformis, Seba, Thes. iii. 183, t. 95. f. 2; Pallas, Zooph. 320; Lamk. Ann. Mus. xx. 380. n. 35; Esper, t. 13.

Var. Network much finer.

Spongia erecta subtilior, Seba, Thes. iii. t. 95. f. 4.

Hab. Australia.

The figure of Petiver (Gaz. ii. t. 32. f. 1) has been referred to this sponge; but it is not a recognizable figure of it.

** *Fronde broad, folded together, more or less completely funnel-shaped.* Basta.

2. IANTHELLA BASTA.

B.M.

Sponge broad, the sides folded together, leaving an open space below near the root, forming an incomplete funnel, which is more or less distorted and divided; the network slender.

Basta marina, Rumph. Herb. Amb. vi. t. 89. f. 1.

Spongia basta, Pallas, Zoop. 309; Esper, Zooph. t. 25; Lamk. Ann. Mus. xx. 442; Lamx. 11, f. 57.

Spongia flabelliformis, E. W. Gray, B. M. 1804, from spec. in Mus. Sloane, no. 996.

Hab. Indian Ocean, Quail Island; found dead attached to conglomerate ironstone (*Rayner*).

3. IANTHELLA HOMEI.

B.M.

Sponge fan-shaped, expanded laterally, the sides bent up, with a thick single stem; fibres of the network thick, strong.

Hab. Australia (*Capt. Sir Everard Home*).

This chiefly differs from *I. basta* in the network appearing to be thicker and stronger. It is only a young, partly developed specimen, and may become more funnel-shaped when it grows older.

8. Notice of two overlooked Species of Antelope.

By EDWARD BLYTH.

In or about the year 1840 the Society possessed a fine male specimen of the true *Antelope bubalis* of Pallas, of which individual I still possess a series of sketches or studies from life. The skin of it is now mounted in the British Museum. I have lately seen one exactly like it in the Antwerp Zoological Gardens; and there is an admirable portrait of one of the same kind in the picture-gallery at The Hague, in the same apartment (or rather landing-place in the Museum) in which is exhibited the celebrated life-size portrait of a young bull by Paul Potter. Again, the same species is figured and described by Buffon as *la Bubale* (*Hist. Nat.* tome xiii. p. 294, t. 37), and its skull, together with that of the Hartbeest (*Bos-elaphus caama*), showing the considerable difference of size of the two, in the following plate. It is also figured and described by MM. Cuvier and Geoffroy St.-Hilaire. This animal is much smaller than the Hartbeest, and it is of a uniform bright chestnut-colour, without any markings on the feet. It is the particular species figured and described as the *Bubalis* of North Africa in every work that I have seen which treats of the animal.

At the same time that the Society possessed the living example before referred to, I saw with Mr. Warwick, of the Surrey Zoological Gardens, the perfect skin of what I at once recognized to be that of a distinct though closely allied species, differing from the true *B.*