

NOTICE OF EMBLETONIA PALLIDA, OF A  
NEW HYDROZOON, AND A NEW  
INFUSORIUM.

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EMBLETONIA HYALINA, (*Alder and Hancock*), maculis purpurescentibus, lobis capitis velo unitis, tentaculis longis, approximantibus, branchiis quatriseserialibus, ellipticis, flavis, apicibus albis.

Habitat—on *Laodomea gelatinosa*, at low-water mark at St. Audries, on the Bristol Channel,—W. A. S., 1860. On the site of the docks, Birkenhead,—Mr. Price, 1854. (Extinct in the latter locality.)

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AT St. Audries, to the west of the road which Sir P. Acland has made from the farm house to the beach, there is a ledge of lias which runs out to the north from the cliff, and forms a barrier, which encloses at low water a large pond of sea water between it and the cliff. Small streams trickle from the pond down the face of the ledge, which form little deep pools, the sides of which are covered with multitudes of Zoophytes of the common shore-kinds, *Laodomeæ*, *Sertulariæ*, and two or three species of *Coryne*. Among them a new species of *Clavula* (*Clavula*

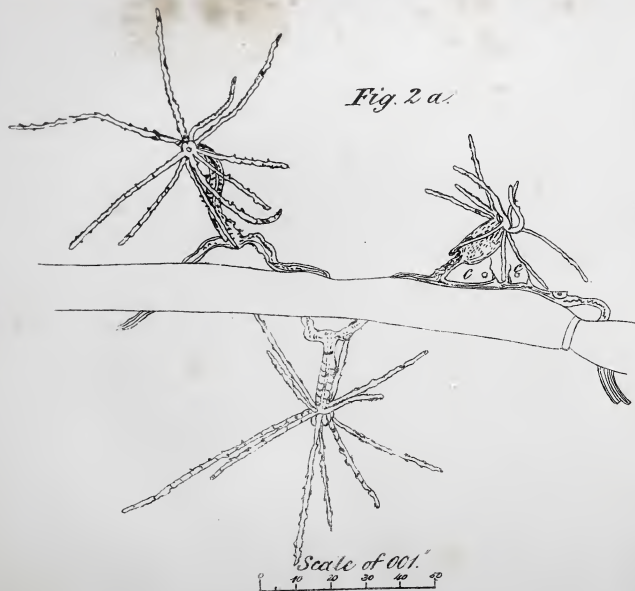


Fig. 2 a.

*Clavula* snail *Ethelridae*.

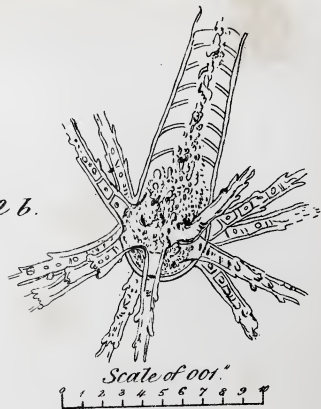


Fig. 2 b.

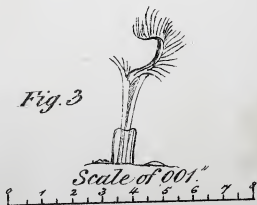
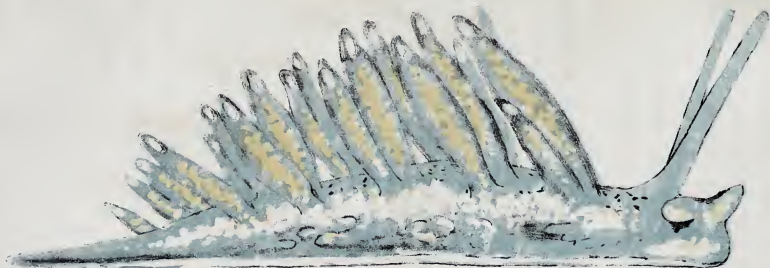


Fig. 3

Infusorium referred to in text (c.c. in fig 2 a. enlarged.)





EMBLETONIA PALLIDA.  
(St<sup>d</sup> Audries.)

*Drawn from life by W.A.S.*

*Print litho. Taunton*

*St. Ethelridæ*), distinguished from *Clavula Gossii* (Dr. Wright) by the sub-uniserial position of the tentacles, and by its greater size and robustness, (fig. 2, *a* and *b*.)

Feeding on these I found numerous specimens of the singular mollusk of which I believe that I now give the first published figure—*Embletonia hyalina*, (fig. 1.) It was originally discovered by Mr. Price on the present site of the Birkenhead docks, in 1854; but when the docks were finished, the site was destroyed, and the animal has not been since met with.

It feeds principally on *Laodomea gelatinosa*, neglecting other zoophytes while any of that remains. It lays its eggs in small reniform masses, with but few eggs in each mass. It appears to be hardy in confinement, some of the specimens having lived eight or ten weeks in jars of sea water, but they are sluggish in their movements, and were generally to be found on the same stone for days together. It is distinguished from the other British species of the genus by the double row of papillæ on each side, and also by the colour, which in *E. pulchra* and *minuta* is red, whereas in this animal it is of so light a blue that it only gives a slight opacity to the animal, the tentacles alone being of a pale yellow; and also by the form of the lobes of the head, which are in this species united into a semicircular veil, but in *pulchra* and *minuta* they form a crescent with blunt horns pointing rather forwards.

Casual observers might mistake *Eolis (Tergipes) exigua* or *despecta* for this animal, but both of these have four tentacles instead of two, and the colouring, although somewhat similar, is very different on close examination.

In the same pools I found an *Infusorium*, different from any I have been able to obtain a description of. I give a slight sketch of it (fig. 3), in order that if recognised by

others it may be examined with a view to determine its real character. It has exactly the habits of *Lagotis*, but is far smaller, not being above a quarter of the size of the smallest species of that genus. It lives in a small tube on the surface of zoophytes and algæ, from which it slowly protrudes a single spiral ciliated lobe, resembling that of *Chætospira* (Lachmann). It may belong to this genus, but I have never been able to isolate the tube in which it lives, and consequently cannot say what relation it bears to that animal. The habits and general appearance are so like those of *Lagotis*, that I should say that it was closely related to that genus.

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