

epidermis there is a thin pure white porcellanous layer, through which and the epidermis the sheen of the nacreous layer gleams. The base is whiter, the epidermis there being very thin. Inside the mouth is an exquisite roseate nacre. *Spire* high, with a slightly concave contour, the lines of which are hardly swollen out by the slight tumidity of the last whorl. *Apex* eroded, but evidently small. *Whorls* 7 or 8, of regular increase, quite flat on the side slopes, except the last, which is very slightly constricted below the suture, a very little tumid on the upper slope, sharply carinated but not much angulated at the suture, and very tumid on the base. *Suture* linear, strongly defined on the upper whorls by the square furrow lying between the lines of tubercles which marginate the suture above and below. On the last whorl it becomes slightly pouting, from the projection of the carina and the slight infra-sutural constriction. *Mouth* nearly square, very little oblique in the line of its advance, but standing out a little obliquely to the axis of the shell. *Outer lip* thin, not descending. *Pillar-lip* thin, spread out broadly at its base over the umbilicus, which it largely conceals, with a deep narrow furrow behind it. Curving over to the right, it advances, thin and pointed, to its angular junction with the basal lip. *Umbilicus* defined by a spiral thread and with two other spirals within it. It is not small, but is concealed by the pillar-lip. H. 0.82 in. B. 0.63, least 0.53. Penultimate whorl, 0.19. Mouth 0.4; breadth 0.38.

*Trochus (Cantharidus) iris*, Humph., while totally unlike in most respects, slightly approaches this in form. It is evidently not remote from *Trochus argenteconitens*, Lischke (Japan. Meeres Conch. vol. iii. p. 67), a species I know only from the figure and description. The whole sculpture, however, seems distinct though similar.

#### 4. *Basilissa*,<sup>1</sup> Watson, 1878.

*Basilissa*, Watson, Prelim. Report, pt. 3, Journ. Linn. Soc. Lond., vol. xiv. p. 593.

*Shell* conical, carinated, umbilicated, nacreous: the last whorl is sinuated above: the pillar is straight and in its direction but little oblique, thin, hollowed out above, in front hardly toothed, but at the base strongly angulated: the mouth is rhomboidal: the outer and the inner lip do not approach one another, nor are united by any palatal callus.

The special feature of this genus is the sinus in the outer lip near its insertion. In the presence of such a sinus it resembles *Seguenzia*, Jeffr., but differs from that genus in this, that *Basilissa* has a wide, open, shallow, not a deep-cleft sinus; is brilliantly nacreous, and lacks the sharp tooth on the pillar, with the strongly marked sinus above and below it. It also wants the carinal sinus which all the species of *Seguenzia* I have examined present; and the basal sinus can scarcely be said to exist, though on the base the lines of growth change their direction markedly below the carina.

In form, in sculpture, and in its sinus this genus recalls *Platyschisma*, M'Coy, a Carboniferous fossil; but that belongs to the Solariidæ, and is distinguishable at once by the absence of the

<sup>1</sup> *Βασιλισσα*, queen.