

thin, yellow, roundedly triangular, with a terminal apex, and scored across with many fine curved lines of increase, altogether much like that of many of the *Pleurotomacea*. H. 2.18 in. B. 0.9. Penultimate whorl, height 0.19. Mouth, height 1.72 (aperture 0.34, canal 1.38), breadth 0.3.

Than *Fusus pagoda*, Less., this is a smaller shell, with a shorter spire; its carinal crown is a continuous flange, not a series of hollow flat spikes, the whorls are higher between keel and suture, the base is more contracted and compressed, the prickles on the spiral threads of base and snout are much closer, sharper, and higher, the canal in front is much narrower; finally, Lesson's species has two embryonic whorls, and these stand up much higher than in this.

The Rev J. E. Tenison Woods, in a very interesting paper (read before the Royal Society of New South Wales, July 4, 1877, and of which he obligingly sent me a copy) on the Tertiary deposits of Australia, p. 8, refers to a fossil *Fusus* occurring in the lowest clays of the Australian Tertiary deposits of lower Miocene, or perhaps Eocene, age. Of this *Fusus* he says that "it is so like the beautiful and delicately spined *Fusus pagodus* of the Philippines, that it has, I believe, been named *Fusus pagodoïdes* by Professor M'Coy." I have not been able to ascertain that this species has ever been published, and having already, before Mr Wood's paper reached me, selected this name for the Challenger species, I have thought it better to retain it, the more so that, should the Australian fossil prove to be the same as the species living in deep water off Sydney, the substitution of another name would be a pity, and would tend to create confusion.

Since writing the above, and just as this paper was leaving my hands, I received from Professor v. Martens, with his accustomed kindness, the number of his *Conchologische Mittheilungen* (vol. ii. pts. 1 and 2), issued for December 1881, containing his beautifully illustrated description of *Fusus pagoda*, Less. (p. 106, pl. xxi. fig. 4), which he attaches to a new sub-genus of *Pleurotoma* under the name of *Columbarium*, enriching the group with a new species *Pleurotoma (Columbarium) spinicincta* (p. 105, pl. xxi. figs. 1-3), got by the German war-vessel "Gazelle," in 76 fathoms, on the same east coast of Australia, at (apparently) a spot distant some 500 miles N. by E. from the place from which the Challenger specimens come. At p. 122, Mr G. Schacko (pl. xxiv. figs. 1, 2) gives details of the radula, on the peculiarities of which the subgenus is mainly based. The opinion of Professor v. Martens is of course of commanding weight; and if I have not followed him here, it is merely because I see that not *Fusus pagodoïdes* alone, but many of the forms grouped under *Trophon*, will have to share the fate of *Fusus pagoda*, Less., whatever that may ultimately be.¹

In the meantime I content myself with calling attention to this increase in the number of those forms which gather round Lesson's remarkable and beautiful species. With this increase in their number, however, there comes no link of connection between them; for not one of the three species helps to unite the other two, though the Challenger species stands on the whole nearer to Lesson's than v. Martens' species does to either. *Pleurotoma (Columbarium) spinicincta*, v. Mart., is distinguished by its high conical spire, its small apex, its more numerous carinal spines, its double basal keel, and the sparseness of the muricated threads on its snout.

¹ I have allowed this paragraph of my Preliminary Report to stand. The opportunity I had hoped for of revising this whole group has not come to me. My conviction, however, is that Professor v. Martens' opinion will prove in the main to be the true one.