

It is impossible to accept the identification of this species with *Trochus lineatus*, Da Costa (= *Trochus crassus*, Pult.), a British and Adriatic shell, or with *Trochus variegatus*, Anton, from the Cape of Good Hope, or with *Trochus sagittiferus*, Lam., also from the Cape, or with *Trochus turbinatus*, Born. (= *tesellatus*, Gmel.), a Mediterranean¹ species, or with *Trochus articulatus*, Lam., also a Mediterranean form. I am far from saying that some or all of these may not be the same; I only say that no sufficient evidence of transitional forms has been produced to justify their union.

I regret further to be unable to accept the identification of this species with *Trochus citrinus*, Gmel., which both Philippi (Conch. Cab., ed. Küster, p. 290, see pl. xlii. figs. 12, 13) and Fischer (*loc. cit. sup.*) approve. That species, according to Gmelin, belongs to Asia; the description he gives of it² is insufficient for determining any species, and is in some points as little applicable to the Madeiran species as it could well be; finally, the figure he quotes from Knorr (Vergnügen d. Augen, vol. i. p. 16, pl. x. fig. 7) presents a back view of a shell, and is beyond recognition. All this indeed Dr Fischer admits, for he says, "Rien ne prouve . . . l'identité du type de Philippi avec le type de Gmelin," adding, "il m'est impossible d'identifier convenablement le type de Knorr." This last point presents precisely the difficulty which seems really insurmountable, since everything depends on what Knorr's species really was, and that cannot be ascertained.

In looking about, then, for a name, *Trochus listeri*, Wood, presents itself. It is figured in Wood's Ind. Test. Suppt. (ed. Hanley), p. 219, pl. v. fig. 8. It is not unlike the species we are examining; it is said to come from Madeira, where there is no other species it can be, and the type specimen is said to be in the British Museum. Were this last statement correct, Wood's name might possibly have found acceptance, but Mr Edgar Smith assures me there is no such shell to be found in the British Museum. Such being the case, *Trochus listeri*, which has not a single word of description, and only such a figure as the Index offers, is beyond identification.

There is really, then, no other name than that of Gould; and though his figures are far from good, yet, taking along with them the description he gives, and the locality to which he attributes his shell, no doubt can remain that *Trochus colubrinus* is the species from Madeira that has been so sorely in want of a name.

I have quoted Mr Lowe's name as that by which it has been locally known for many years—one, too, which very strikingly recalls the enormous use of the animal by the common people as an article of food, and the consequent presence of the rejected shells everywhere in town and country. Unfortunately Mr Lowe's name was never published.

The finding of the species at Santa Cruz, Tenerife, is a fact worthy of notice. There are in the Challenger collection five immature specimens quite unmistakable. It is on the strength of these that I have quoted D'Orbigny (*loc. cit. sup.*) as having this species in view under the name of *Trochus crassus*, "Matton and Rackett." I am not aware of any one else having quoted it for the Canary Islands, and I do not remember to have myself found it either at Canary or at Tenerife. This fact, however, I am unable to verify, as the restraints of narrow accommodation make my Canarian collection quite inaccessible.

¹ Dr Fischer (Kiener, p. 202) adds, "Canarian" on the authority of M'Andrew; but I have failed to find any authority in M'Andrew for the statement.

² *Trochus testa conico-convexa, citrina, lineis angulatis nigris picta: anfractibus duobus primis fusco obumbratis.*