

16. *Natica pseustes*,¹ Watson (Pl. XXVII. fig. 3).*Natica pseustes*, Watson, Prelim. Report, pt. 7, Journ. Linn. Soc. Lond., vol. xv. p. 255.

July 1874. Levuka, Fiji. Shallow water.

Shell.—Rounded, with no angulation in the whole contour, obliquely depressedly globose, with spire scarcely projecting, thin, smooth, glossy, porcellanous white, with a zone of large chestnut irregular spots below the suture; the umbilicus and pillar are uniformly stained with the same colour. *Sculpture*: Longitudinals—there are many delicate hair-like lines of growth, which are strongest and most crowded near the suture and round the umbilicus. Spirals—there is a very faint appearance of rounded threads and furrows, one of which below the suture is a little stronger than the rest; besides these the surface is densely, delicately, sharply, microscopically scratched; these scratches are strongest on the upper part of the last whorl near the mouth, where their intersection with the lines of growth produces a very delicate sharp cross-hatching. The centre of the base has a scarce perceptible carination, which becomes stronger just behind the point of the pillar; within this carination is a strong but shallow umbilical furrow, which deeply cuts in on the pillar, and curves round the base of the strong pad which chokes up the umbilicus. *Colour* semi-transparent, porcellanous white, which becomes a dead white round the umbilicus and also in a broadish band below the suture; this white band is flecked with irregular, sharply defined, ruddy chestnut spots; a stain of this colour in a lighter shade suffuses the whole umbilicus and pillar: the rest of the shell is covered with a delicate network of fine, sharply defined light-chestnut lines; amidst this network are two or three spiral zones, where the brown lines are sparser and pale lanceolate spots appear. *Epidermis*: none visible. *Spire* scarcely raised, but just perceptibly conical. *Apex* rather large, with the extreme rounded tip appearing at the highest point of the shell. *Whorls* $4\frac{3}{4}$ (of which the first $2\frac{1}{4}$ are embryonic and glassy), very flatly rounded, of rather slow increase. *Suture* almost horizontal and very slight. *Mouth* very oblique, semicircular, but pointed above and rounded below, with a slight angulation at the front of the pillar; the filling up of the superior corner by the labial pad equalizes the two extremities and reduces the opening to an unequal-sided oval; its entire height is about $\frac{1}{11}$ of the whole height of the shell; it is open, transparent porcellanous white within. *Outer lip*: it advances slightly on leaving the body-whorl, but beyond the pad retreats a very little, and from this point its whole curve is very equable; its edge is blunt and rounded. *Inner lip* very slightly concave; at the upper angle of the mouth it is formed by a thick transparently porcellanous pad, which is faintly tinged with chestnut: this pad projects beyond the plane of the mouth in a point, which is separated from the outer lip by a little triangular depression; it is continued with an uneven surface across the body, and unites with the pad which closes the upper part of the umbilicus, and is connected with the great chestnut-coloured spiral buttress which chokes up the umbilicus,

¹ ψεύστης, a deceiver.