

6, besides those of the embryonic shell; they are conical and flat on the sides, contracted below, short, of regular rather rapid increase; the body-whorl is a little large, and has a short rounded base. *Suture* has its position very strongly defined by the contraction at the base of each whorl, but is really all but invisible. *Mouth* gibbously and tumidly fusiform, being sharp pointed above, and also at the canal in front. *Outer lip* arched throughout. *Pillar* is longish, thin-edged, twisted, truncate in front, rich chestnut, with a very distinct small oblique canal at its point. *Inner lip* thin, concave. H. 0.112 in. B. 0.041. Mouth, height 0.032, breadth 0.022.

This is much smaller than the young of *Bittium granarium*, Kiener, and the whole sculpture is different. It is not unlike *Bittium reticulatum*, Da Costa, but the sculpture is quite distinct. The specimens are not full grown, so that the outer lip cannot be satisfactorily described.

21. *Bittium xanthum*,¹ n. sp. (Pl. XXXVIII. fig. 6).

September 7, 1874. Torres Strait, North-east Australia. 3 to 11 fathoms.

Shell.—Small, narrow, conical, very slightly constricted at the suture, fine-tipped, feebly tubercled, with four spiral threads on the penultimate whorl, and a longish base. *Sculpture*: Longitudinals—there are on the last whorl about 18 small narrow riblets, on the earlier whorls they are fewer, and so far as their increasing number allows they run continuously and straight down the spire from whorl to whorl; the parting furrows are open and shallow, and a little wider than the ribs; one or two are swollen into slight varices; they entirely disappear on the base, and do not exist on the first regular whorl. Spirals—there are on the penultimate whorl four small threads, which rise into little rounded tubercles as they cross the riblets; on the first two whorls there are but two, on the middle whorls three of these threads; below these in the contraction of the suture, but on the upper side of the suture itself, is another excessively minute threadlet not tubercled; this threadlet is seen beyond the lip insertion to be the exposed edge of the first basal thread, which is pretty strong, and lies just below the periphery; within this are four other very similar threads, while one very small one coils round the pillar; all the parting furrows are shallow and small, but rather wider than the threads; there are no microscopic spirals. *Colour* ochry yellow throughout, only the tip is paler. *Spire* high, narrow, conical, with slightly convex outlines. *Apex* small, but blunt; it consists of three smooth whorls, of which the latter two are subcylindrical, while the first is sub-immersed, the extreme tip being barely raised. *Whorls* 8, exclusive of those of the embryonic shell; they are rather short, conical, feebly contracted at the suture, barely convex-sided, of slow and regular increase, the body-whorl is slightly contracted, and has a longish

¹ *ξανθός*, yellow, so called from the colour.