

## DESCRIPTIONS OF SPECIES.

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### MARSENIADÆ.

#### *Marsenia*, Leach.

The genus *Marsenia* proper was established by Leach as early as 1820. These animals are not of large size. The mantle, which is closed above, has a broad border, and there is only one sub-pallial respiratory fold and furrow, lying anteriorly, and leading into the left side of the branchial opening. The calcareous shell, which is entirely inclosed, has a small spiral with a somewhat wide opening, and with a distinct columellar sinus. The *Marseniæ* have large, lancet-shaped *branchial leaflets*, which are covered laterally with *transverse folds*. The *mandibular plates* are strongly developed, and composed not of rows of rods, but of a tolerably uniform (homogeneous) mass, with a broad biting or chewing margin. The *median tooth plates* of the tongue have their posterior margin almost always deeply cleft; the strong lateral plates have their hook denticulated on each margin, but unequally toothed. There is always a large *proventriculus*. The sexes are separate; the inferior portion of the *vas deferens* is quite *free*, partly covering with its coils the *bulbus pharyngeus* and the foliated stomach. The flattened, sickle-shaped penis is somewhat broadened terminally.

The true *Marseniæ* occur in all seas, both tropical and arctic. But little is known of their general biological relations. The ontogeny of a typical form has been partially followed.<sup>1</sup>

*Marsenia dubia*, n. sp. (Pl. I. figs. 1-6).

*Habitat*.—Eastern North Atlantic, off Cape Verde.

Only one specimen (a male) was found, on the 28th July 1873, near St Vincent, Cape Verde.

This small form measured 4.5 mm. in length, about 4 in breadth, and 1.75 in height. The general *colour* was whitish, and the yet whiter shell shimmered through the dorsal surface. In *form* it agreed with the typical *Marseniæ*; the respiratory fold of the mantle

<sup>1</sup> Cf. also my monograph of the Marseniadæ, which will shortly appear (1886, 1887), as Supplement III. to my Malacological Researches, in Semper's Account of his Travels in the Philippines: *Reisen im Archipel d. Philippinen, &c.*