

in the Conch. Syst., and describes and figures *Cryptoplax striatus* as *Chitonellus oculatus* in the Conch. Icon. †

Mr E. A. Smith¹ states that he cannot identify any specimen in the British Museum with the species in question; but two specimens, at least, from the Friendly Islands occur in that collection. Mr Smith has kindly sent me a sketch of the isolated valves of one of these specimens, which I find perfectly corresponds with Pl. III. figs. 10a-10m of this Report.

Dr P. P. Carpenter in his MS. says—"The *oculatus* of Reeve appears to me a distinct species [from *Chiton oculatus*, Quoy and Gaim.]. He says nothing about pores."

Cryptoplax burrowi (E. A. Smith) (Pl. III. figs. 11a-11m).

Chitonellus larvæformis, Reeve (non Blainville), Conch. Icon., 1847, fig. 3.

„ *burrowi*, E. A. Smith, Report Zool. Collect. H.M.S. "Alert," 1884, p. 85.

Habitat.—Port Adelaide (Reeve); Straits of Macassar (Captain Belcher); Port Molle (Coppinger). All in the British Museum.

I have only to add to the description of this species, as emended by Smith, that nine pores are present on the girdle on each side in the normal position. On my inquiring specially on this point, Mr Smith kindly re-examined his specimens and informed me by letter that "*Chitonellus burrowi* has pores, and is therefore a *Cryptoplax*. There is no trace of them externally, and they are only discernible by removing the outer scaly coat; they are then seen (but not distinctly as in the other species) upon the white skin beneath in just the same position and to the same numbers as in *Cryptoplax larvæformis* and *Cryptoplax striatus*."

As the existing descriptions give a sufficiently accurate and recognisable account of the external appearance of the four species of *Cryptoplax* alluded to above, it would be superfluous to re-describe them. The appearance of the detached valves has not, however, been previously described, and it merits careful attention, since, as will be seen on referring to Pl. III. figs. 9-12, each species can be readily identified by even a single isolated valve.

There is in *Cryptoplax* a greater dissimilarity between the intermediate valves than occurs in other Chitons. In most other forms the second valve differs from the succeeding by being relatively much deeper (*i.e.*, longer), but otherwise it has the same general appearance as the other valves. In *Cryptoplax* the first three valves are usually much larger than the remainder. This is especially the case in *Cryptoplax larvæformis*. In *Cryptoplax striatus* the third and succeeding valves are pretty much of the same size, whereas in the other three species the last four valves are considerably smaller. This statement merely refers to the exposed portion of the valves. In *Cryptoplax striatus* all the valves may overlap or the last four may be slightly separated. The other species

¹ Report Zool. Collections, H.M.S. "Alert," p. 85