

have antennæ equal to it in thickness), it may be quickly distinguished by its gloomy black colour, and by the dull ash-grey bloom on the elytra. The pubescence on the thorax is dull grizzly yellow, a good deal coarser than the strong rich russet yellow of *tristis* and the other thick-clubbed species; and the bloom on the elytra wants the purplish tinge observable in these species; and there are no yellow hairs along the base or margins of the elytra, which are not lighter in colour themselves than the thorax. Immature specimens wholly ferruginous brown are occasionally met with. The thickness of the club of the antennæ is also not always equally great, but always greater than in any other species.

As I have already mentioned in speaking of the varieties of *tristis*, similar varieties occur of this species, viz. :—

Var. *grandicollis*, with larger broad thorax.

Var. *tristis*, with narrow short thorax and broad elytra.

Var. *rotundicollis*, of the shape of *rotundicollis*, but larger.

Var. *nigrita*, of the shape of *nigrita*.

For the differences between these varieties and the similarly named varieties of *tristis*, see the remarks on page 150.

As I have already mentioned, this species used very generally to be made to represent both *tristis* and *chrysomeloides* by British and even foreign entomologists.

It is found under small dead birds and mammals. Mr. Bates of Leicester has taken hundreds (and supplied me largely) by a simple trap which is very useful for taking some of our rarest *Clavicornes*. He puts three or four rabbits' feet into a soda-water bottle, buries it in a favourable locality, so that the mouth of the bottle is level with the ground, and in a week or ten days the interior of the bottle is swarming with insects, among which great rarities occasionally occur.

[To be continued.]

XVI.—On a new British species of Skenea.

By W. WEBSTER, Esq.

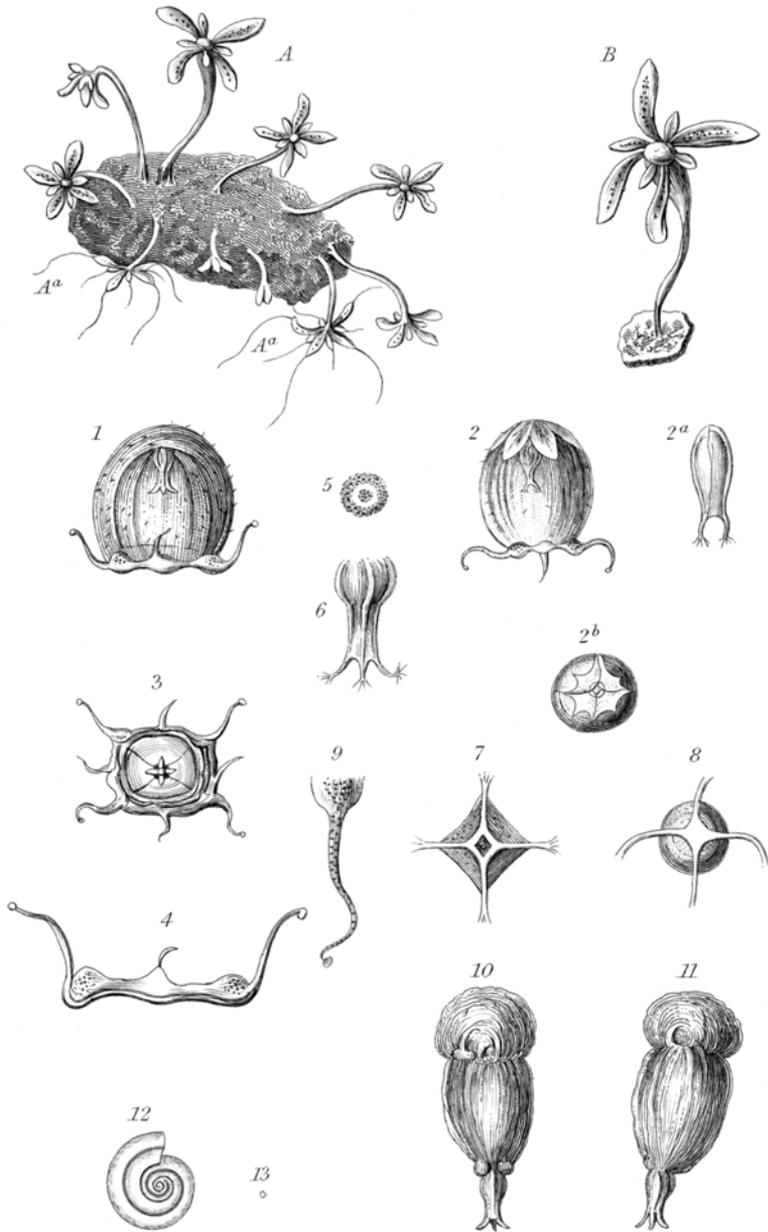
[With a Plate.]

To the Editors of the *Annals of Natural History*.

GENTLEMEN,

THROUGH the kindness of C. Spence Bate, Esq., I am enabled to send you a drawing (Pl. VIII. figs. 12, 13) of an extremely minute *Skenea* which I found in sand, taken amongst *Corallina officinalis* from rock-pools at Gwyllyn Vase near Falmouth.

It is involute, like *Skenea nitidissima*, and equally umbilicated



both above and below ; but the whorls, which are three, instead of two and a half, do not increase quite so rapidly in size. Its distinctive feature consists in having three spiral ribs or carinæ of a shining fulvous tint, which contrast strongly with the whitish ground colour of the shell ; one is situated on either side extending from the apex to the orifice, and the third, which is not so distinctly elevated, on the centre of the body.

The entire volutions appear under a good lens strongly wrinkled longitudinally, more especially on the inner sides, and under a still higher power finely striated spirally. The mouth, which is well rounded and does not turn to either side, embraces a considerable portion of the body-whorl. The operculum I have not been able to examine : its diameter hardly equals the twentieth of an inch.

As yet I have only obtained four specimens, but have still some small portion of the sand in which they were found, remaining unexamined.

If the shell as described above is already known, I should feel greatly obliged if any of your scientific correspondents would favour me with the name.

I am borne out in my opinion that it is new to the British fauna by Dr. Battersby of Torquay, who has kindly examined the shell ; should it prove equally new to science, *Skenea tricarinata* would be a very appropriate designation.

It may be interesting to some of your readers to know, that I met with several fine specimens of the rare *Crenella costulata* in rock-pools in Mount's Bay, and also with *Modiola phaseolina* in some abundance in the same locality.

Yours faithfully,

W. WEBSTER.

Upton Hall, near Birkenhead,
June 21, 1856.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE VIII.

Fig. 12. The shell highly magnified. Fig. 13. Natural size.

XVII.—*Description of a New Species of Dolphin* (Steno) from the upper parts of the River Amazon*. By J. E. GRAY, Ph.D., F.R.S. &c.

MR. H. W. BATES has sent to the British Museum the skulls of two Dolphins which he has procured from the upper parts of the Amazon.

The *first* is named *Bouto* by the natives, and found near Ega. It is evidently the *Delphinus Geoffroyii* of Desmarest,

[* A brief abstract of a notice of two species of Dolphins occurring in the Amazon, by M. Paul Gervais, appeared in the *Annals*, vol. xvii. p. 521.—*Ed. Ann. Nat. Hist.*]