

decipher from the clayey pages of this old lake of the Derwent. There are, however, myriads of leaves still uncut, unread, and I trust the members of this Society will assist in the future in adding to our knowledge regarding them.

DESCRIPTION OF TWO NEW MARINE SHELLS
DREDGED OFF THREE HUT POINT, D'ENTRE-
CASTEAUX CHANNEL, TASMANIA.

By C. E. BEDDOME.

[*Read 10th May, 1881.*]

DELPHINULA JOHNSTONI, n.s.

Shell minute, obliquely turbinate, nucleus smooth, whorls $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4, convex, latticed by spiral and diagonally transverse liræ; spiral liræ alternately fine and coarse, increasing in number towards aperture; base convex, the surface of which is also finely latticed; there is a well-defined, relatively broad, and somewhat concave band, transversely lirate, between last spiral liræ and the tortuous marginal rib of umbilicus, which latter joins and forms a partly closed channel at anterior angle of aperture. Aperture round, outer lip simple, obsoletely channelled at anterior and posterior angles. Inner lip reflexed and nearly concealing umbilicus and marginal rib.—Long. 2 mil. Lat. 2 mil.

This shell is closely allied to *D. tetragonostoma*, Tenison-Woods (fossil sp.), and forms an interesting link with the marine life of the tertiary period.

Hab., off Three Hut Point, D'Entrecasteaux channel, about 17 fathoms.

I have great pleasure in dedicating this species to my friend R. M. Johnston, Esq., who has interested himself so much in the present and past fauna of the country.

LEDA LEFROYI, n.s.

Shell minute, thin, translucent, much compressed, narrowly elongate. Under the lens the exterior surface appears finely striated, radiately and concentrically, and is covered with a very delicate olive epidermis. Anterior side short, arched; posterior side with a gently curved depression, and produced into a long, narrow, tapering rostrum, which, upon the inside, is divided into two well-defined channels by a raised longitudinal callosity in both valves. Rostral area scarcely truncated at the tip. Umboes slightly elevated. Ventral margin slightly convex. Long. $9\frac{1}{2}$ mil. (a line passing vertically through umboes would

divide the length thus: anterior side 3 mil., post. $6\frac{1}{2}$ mil.) Depth 4 mil., thickness of both valves $1\frac{1}{2}$ mil. Teeth, post. 22, anterior 11.

This interesting shell is very distinct from any known species. It approaches the Patagonian *Leda* (*L. Patagonica* D'Orb.) in form, but it is much smaller and is sculptured differently.

Hab., off Three Hut Point, D'Entrecasteaux Channel, 10 fathoms.

I dedicate this species to His Excellency Lieut.-General Sir John Henry Lefroy, K.C.M.G., who has always taken an active interest in matters appertaining to natural history.

SUGGESTIONS FOR AN EXTENDED ELUCIDATION OF THE PLANTS OF TASMANIA.

BY BARON FERD. VON MUELLER, K.C.M.G., M.D., F.R.S.

[*Read 10th May, 1881.*]

The rich and beautiful vegetation of Tasmania has had bestowed on its special investigation the talent of a leading photographer of this age, Sir Joseph Hooker; and no other island of the same dimension can boast of the possession of two such superb volumes on its vegetation as the *Flora Tasmania*, issued at the expense of the Admiralty with some support of the Local Government. The di- and mono-cotyledonous plants became thus mainly, though not exhaustively enumerated; very many also of the Acotyledoneæ, by the aid of Messrs. W. Wilson, M. Mitten, M. J. Berkeley, W. H. Harvey, and C. Babington, became largely recorded, so much so that in 1860, when the second volume of the *Flora Tasmania* appeared, already over one thousand well-defined Cryptogams, exclusive of ferns, became recorded; thus, to Tasmania belongs the honour of having laid the foundation to the whole cryptogamic botany of Australia, a great majority of the Tasmanian species (as shown by subsequent and even previous researches) occurring in continental Australia also. Nevertheless our knowledge of the Acotyledoneæ of the Tasmanian colony must not by any means be regarded as complete; indeed, these lower vegetable organisms have there almost solely been collected by Messrs. Gunn and Archer, with a zeal beyond praise, through which their names will also in this department of science be for ever identified with the land of their adoption. Many regions within the Tasmanian dominion were not accessible to either of these investigators, and it is very likely that numerous species of Acotyledoneæ