

VOLUTA FUSIFORMIS. *Swainson.*Var. *Micro-papillosa.*

BY C. E. BEDDOME.

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Shell fusiform ovately-elongate, somewhat solid, contracted, and distinctly emarginate at the base; spire *very short*, only about one-fourth the length of body whorl; somewhat acuminate and minutely papillary at the apex; whorls uniformly gently rounded or swollen, smooth, minutely decussately striated under the lens: columella with three very oblique moderately conspicuous plaits; aperture rather narrowly elliptical; lip markedly thickened and sub-reflexed, very much compressed over very narrowly receding posterior canal; colour brownish white, reticulated with light chestnut triangularly configured lines as in *V. fusiformis*, columella and interior of the aperture uniformly orange-carnelia.

This shell, taken from the Derwent by Mr. Frank Rush, fisherman, forms an interesting link between *V. fusiformis*, Sw., and *V. papillaris*, Sw., although it is scarcely separable from the former species, of which it may be regarded as an extremely aberrant variety. It approaches close to *V. papillaris*, Sw., in the extremely short spire, in solidity, and in the thickened lip and compressed posterior margin. In all other characters it agrees exactly with *Voluta fusiformis*, Sw.

Length of spire, $1\frac{1}{4}$ in.; length of body whorl, $4\frac{1}{6}$ in.; total length, $5\frac{1}{6}$ in. Greatest breadth, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. The following relative measurements of the three allied forms give a more definite idea of the respective proportions of spire, body whorl, and breadth, in relation to length, regarded in each case as 100:—

	<i>V. fusiformis.</i>	<i>V. fusiformis</i> var. <i>micro papillosa.</i>	<i>V. papillaris.</i>
Spire	35	21	28
Body whorl	65	79	72
Greatest breadth	41	44	45
Total length	100	100	100

The type species is in C. E. Beddome's collection. The beautiful drawings of the shell have been made for me by W. L. May, Esq., of Sandford, Tasmania.