

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW VARIETY OF
CYPRÆA VARIOLARIA Lamk.

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C. variolaria Lamarck, var. **amiges** nov.—

Shell somewhat incrassate laterally, and broadened, normally shaped, the labial teeth strong, fourteen in number, the columellar dentition feeble and thin, not far extending over the base, as is the general case with the allied *C. caurica* and most of its varieties. Whole substance of shell subpellucid, dorsally bright stramineous, with shade of ochre, the usual typical pattern much obscured, and hardly determinable without a lens, when the round clear spots, so characteristic of the species are observable, *C. caurica* never possessing them.

Long. 40, lat. 26 mm.

We have seen only one example of this beautiful form, which stands in relation to the type precisely as the var. *straminea* does to *C. erosa* L., and var. *hawaiiensis* to *C. helvola* L., and we are indebted to Mr. J. Kidson Taylor for first calling our attention to its affinity with *C. variolaria*.

We agree with ¹Mr. H. O. N. Shaw in adopting the name *variolaria* Lam. instead of the well-known *cruenta* Gmel.; he first quotes Dr. J. G. Hidalgo² in saying that this latter name, as adopted generally, was bestowed on the wrong species, for Gmelin signalized *C. erroneus* L. as his *cruenta*, this name being, of course, thus rendered synonymic, and therefore, by the rules of nomenclature, not allowed again to come into use. *C. chinensis*, another name of Gmelin's, is now adopted by Hidalgo,³ but the original description is so vague that it seems best to discard it in favour of a name often used for this species preferentially by authors, of which the description is good and decisive. The varietal name is the Greek ἀμύγης, a word used by Aristotle, expressive of clearness and purity.

The unique specimen is in the collection of R. Standen. The locality is not exactly known. The type is found, however, in the Hawaiian Archipelago and it is, therefore, quite possible this variety came from thence, so many species of the genus found in those regions being of the same pellucidity and bright dorsal colouration.

¹ Proc. Malac. Soc., viii., p. 294 (1909).

² Hidalgo: "Cypræa," p. 174.

³ Hidalgo: "Cypræa," p. 307.