

NOTE ON SOME NEW MEXICAN SHELLS.

BY H. A. PILSBRY.

Professor T. D. A. Cockerell recently sent a small box of fluvial debris containing shells, obtained during the past summer by Professor J. D. Tinsley at South Spring Creek, near Roswell, N. M.

The list of species follows:

- Polygyra texasiana* (Moric.)
- Bifidaria pentadon* (Say).
- Zonitoides minusculus* (Binn.)
- Carychium exiguum* (Say).
- Linnæa humilis* Say.
- Planorbis bicarinatus* Say.
- Planorbis excavatus* Say.
- Anegulus rivularis* Say.
- Physa virgata* Gld.
- Paludestrina seomanni* (Fhd.).
- Ammicola* sp.
- Pisidium compressum* Prime.

There was a single dead specimen of the *Ammicola*, which is probably a new species somewhat like *A. micrococcus*, but more conic. With the shells were numerous minute bivalve crustaceans of the *Cypris* type, and some of the Valvata-like larva-cases of *Helicopsyche*, composed of much coarser materials than are chosen by our eastern *H. arenifera*.

AMONG THE UNIOS OF THE SABINE RIVER.

BY L. S. FRIERSON.

The Sabine River forms part of the boundary between Texas and Louisiana. The Houston, East & West Texas Railroad crosses the river at Logansport, a thriving village of about one-half mile in diameter. This town derives its support from an immense saw-mill, one of the largest in the world. It is worthy of a trip to see the huge logs pulled about, and in a few minutes turned into finished lumber, loaded into cars and ready to go unto the uttermost parts of the world.

But it was not lumber for which I took my trip to the Sabine, but to describe the river and its inhabitants. This river flows through and over immense sand banks. Its walls are fifty feet high, and mainly of pure sand from top to bottom.

At the time of my visit it was so low that even a flat-bottomed skiff could not be paddled up it, except here and there in pools. As

Besides these, there are a lot of "suspects" also, which may yield the following species:

*Unio cuneus* Con.

*Unio hebetatus* Con.

*Unio* —. New species; has pink nacre.

Finally, our box yielded two large univalves, which Mr. Marsh pronounces to be *Campeloma geniculum* Conrad.

#### ABALONE FISHERY IN CALIFORNIA—PROTECTIVE REGULATION.

BY R. E. C. STEARNS.

The continued gathering or "fishing" of Abalones (*Haliotis*, Ear-shells or Ormers, as they are variously called), along the coast of California, has recently led to restrictive action by some of the county authorities. The supervisors of Monterey, and of other of the seaboard counties, have taken the necessary legal steps to regulate the fishing, which has been carried on continuously from about 1864 to the present time by the Chinese, and of late by the Japanese. The well-known species, *Haliotis rufescens* and *H. cracherodii*, so abundant between tidemarks a few years ago, have, owing to the intermittent collecting by the Asiatic fishermen, become comparatively scarce.

An ordinance recently passed by the authorities of Monterey County, makes it unlawful to "fish" for Abalones except in deep water, and by means of diving apparatus or other deep-sea devices. A license of \$60 is also to be charged in the future for "fishing" for abalones. (This license fee is presumably for the term of a year.) The ordinance is said to be "the result of a fight" between the city of Monterey, seeking to stop the gathering and shipping out of the county (or country?) of Abalone meats and shells, and the Japanese cannery, that has carried on an extensive business at a plant on Carmel Bay, about six miles south of Monterey. Practically, the ordinance is a compromise between local parties; the fishermen being restricted to "deep water," excepting a limited portion of the littoral

soon as we were out of sight of the town we waded into the river. In the clear water the Unios could be seen and picked up, and in a couple of hours we had collected about 1,000 and returned to the town, and shipped our catch home. By this time the August sun was at a heat of about 92°, and we spent the rest of the day trying to keep cool. By the next train we came home, and cleaned up and assorted our booty. They were a rich lot. You lovers of Unio, read the list:

*Unio multiplicatus* Lea.

*Unio trapezoides* Lea.

*Unio perplicatus* Con. with several "*abases*."

*Unio purpuratus* Lam., very numerous and large.

*Unio anodontoides* Lea., rather scarce, and very poor.

*Unio cornutus* Barnes. Fine.

*Unio sphaericus* Lea.

*Unio refulgens* Lea.

*Unio hydianus* Lea.

*Unio castaneus* Lea.

*Unio gracilis* Bar., very abundant.

*Unio nigerimus* Lea. A very distinct species, and most certainly not *subrostratus* Say, as has been claimed.

*Unio cerinus* Conrad, scarce.

*Unio askewii* Marsh, abundant.

*Unio chunii* Lea, scarce.

*Unio riddellii* Lea. This shell is so rare that Mr. Chas. T. Simpson writes me that these from the Sabine river are the only undoubted specimens he has ever seen (excepting the type).

*Unio asper* Lea.

*Unio elegans* Lea.

*Unio satur* Lea. Another "*rara avis*," (Some unio logists think this shell to be a variant of *U. occidens*, but, from the study of 105 specimens, I believe it a "*good*" species.)

*Unio amphichænus* Frierson. This is a remarkable shell, and its novelty has now "stood fire" without loss.

*Anodonta imbecillis* Say.

*Anodonta edentula* Say. (From a tributary of the Sabine river, and by odds the largest specimen I have ever seen.)

*Anodonta virens-stewartiana*, etc., etc.

*Margaritana confragosa* Barnes.