

**SUPPLEMENT TO A
MONOGRAPH OF THE
BRITISH FOSSIL TRIGONIAE**

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Supplement to A Monograph of the British Fossil Trigonidae by John Lycett

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JOHN LYCETT

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BRITISH FOSSIL TRIGONIÆ.

BY THE LATE

JOHN LYCETT, L.R.C.P.E., &c.

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The discovery of two species of *Trigonia* in the Lower Lias of Oviedo, Northern Spain, is an important fact in Palæontology, as it carries back the genus in Geological time almost to the Trias, and therefore nearly to the position of its allied genus and precursor, *Myophoria*. Previously, the oldest recorded species of *Trigonia* of which we have any certain knowledge was the *Trigonia Lingonensis*, Dum., obtained in the upper portion of the Middle Lias of France and England.¹ The Spanish *Trigonia* now described were obtained by Dr. Charles Barrois, of the Faculté des Sciences, Lille, and are stated by him to occur on the border of the Liassic basin of Oviedo, overlying Trias. I have previously, at page 211 of my 'Monograph on Trigonia,' mentioned my obligations to Dr. Barrois for his important contributions of Belgian Trigoniae to that work, and have now again to express my thanks and recognition of the high value of his present contribution. Dr. Barrois refers these *Trigoniae* to the *Angulatus zone* of the Lower Lias, and mentions that he has transferred his Jurassic fossils to his friend, Mons. A. Six, of Lille (Secretary to the Northern Geological Society), who is actively engaged in the study of the Jurassic rocks of Eastern France. A subsequent communication obligingly contributed by the latter gentleman, contains much additional information respecting these Spanish *Trigoniae*, and informs me that the fossils associated with them are in bad preservation, that some of them are new, that there are no Cephalopoda with them, and that he has ascertained the following species of Lamellibranchiata, *Cardinia concinna*, Sow., *Astarte detrita*, Goldf., *Protocardia Phillipiana*, Dunker., *Protocardia truncata*, Sow., also a gigantic *Gervillia*, upwards of eleven centimètres in length. These fossils he assigns to the Etage Hettangien or Infra Lias of Turquem and Picette. The *Trigoniae* were associated with the gigantic *Gervillia*, the position of which he believes to be the upper portion of the *Angulatus zone*; carbonaceous masses also occur. The lithological aspect of the *Trigoniae* resembles that of the fossils generally from the Lower Lias shale; they are all separated valves. These are the oldest examples of *Trigoniae* of which we have any certain knowledge.

¹ 'British Trigoniae,' p. 98, also pp. 219.

TRIGONIA OVIEDENSIS, *Lycett*. Sp. nov. Woodcuts, figs. 1 and 2, nat. size.

Shell ovately oblong, somewhat Unio-like, moderately convex anteaally and mesially, more depressed posteriorly; umbones not very large or prominent, but pointed, and situated within the anterior third of the valve; the ornamented or costated portion of the surface occupies about three-fourths of the valve; the costæ are very numerous, very closely arranged, not prominent, for the most part closely and imperfectly tuberculated; the tubercles are depressed and often obscure; the general direction of the rows is horizontal, those occupying the first four lines in height adjacent to the apex are linear and nearly smooth; their arrangement is so close that about twenty-five may be counted; the costæ of the other and greater portion of the valve, about twenty-five in number, are tuberculated and horizontal; the rows become somewhat more prominent at



Trigonis Oviedensis, from Spain.

their postcal extremities, where they terminate abruptly at the smooth ante-carinal space; they are sometimes undulated, but all have a general horizontal direction. The smaller or smooth portion of the shell, represents a narrow ante-carinal space, a narrow smooth area with obscure bounding carinæ, and a narrow, lengthened escutcheon; the latter is about half the length of the entire valve; the area has also a slightly defined mesial furrow. The specimens contributed by Dr. Barrois differ among themselves in the prominence of the subtuberculated costæ, but the general figure of the shell is nearly alike though essentially different from its allied congeners of the *glabra*, from which it is separated by the ovately oblong figure, by the small umbones and by their anteaal position.

In the character of the ornamentation in *T. Oviedensis* there is a remarkable fact, inasmuch as it is nearly allied to a species of the same section (*Glabra*) placed almost at the opposite extremity of the Jurassic species, viz. the *T. tenuitesta*, *Lyc.*, of the Portland formation;¹ but in the general figure the two species are strikingly different; in fact the shape is the feature by which *T. Oviedensis* is most conspicuously distinguished, and which at once separates it from the Portlandian *Glabra*.

¹ Monograph, p. 90.

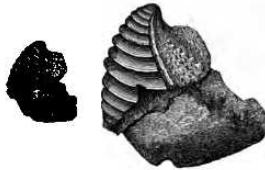
Dimensions.—Length of the specimen in Fig. 1 21 lines; height 16 lines; convexity of a single valve 5 lines. Fig. 2, a more imperfect specimen, has the ornamentation more strongly defined. A third example retains little more than the ornamented portion of the surface; a fourth specimen is smaller and nearly entire in outline, but retains little more of the surface than the irregular lines of growth.

TRIGONIA INFRA-COSTATA, *Lycett*. Sp. nov., figs. 3 and 4. (Fig. 4 enlarged one diameter.)

Of this small species of the *Costata*, I have only a single imperfect example, fortunately the portion preserved possesses all the features necessary to characterise the species; it is remarkable for the unusual prominence of the ornamentation upon the escutcheon and the area, and more especially for the great breadth of the escutcheon; the costæ (of which about seventeen are preserved) are narrow, very prominent, and

FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.



Trigonis infra-costata, from Spain.

much marked transversely by decussating lines of growth which indent their surfaces, rendering them slightly nodulous; their postæal extremities are well separated from the marginal carina, which is large, and has its tubercles unusually prominent; the inner and median carinæ are well-defined; there are also some small inter-carinal costellæ. The escutcheon is very wide and flattened, its large irregular tubercles give to it a roughened nodose aspect. The umbones are narrow, prominent, and recurved. The anterior side is somewhat compressed and sinuated. Apparently, the shell if perfect would have more than twice the height of the portion preserved. It was associated with *T. Ovidensis*, and appears to be more rare than that species.

By referring to the comparison of the genus *Myophoria* with the *Costata* at p. 215 of this Monograph, the above description of the present species will show that both by its figure and surface ornaments it is clearly separated from *Myophoria*, and that it possesses all the attributes of the *Trigonis costata*, even more strongly developed than is usual with that section. The curvature of the umbones is more especially well marked, and would alone suffice to establish its generic identity.

APPENDIX.¹

DURING the latter period of the publication of my Monograph on the British Fossil *Trigonia* and subsequently, the fossils of the Inferior Oolite of Oxfordshire were brought very fully under my notice; these were found to contain three new species of *Trigonia*, *T. Guisei*, *Walfordi*, and *Windoosi*, four varieties of *T. signata*, Ag., which I have here named at pages 5—10, *Zietenii*, *rugulosa*, *Stutterdi*, and *decurtata*. Three of the varieties, viz. *rugulosa*, *Stutterdi*, and *decurtata*, appear to be unknown at other British localities. These discoveries have resulted from the labours of several local investigators. The fine collection of Oxfordian fossils made by Mr. Stutterd, of Banbury, and now placed in the Oxford University Museum, has stimulated, as might be expected, the exertions of other observers; of these may be mentioned Mr. E. A. Walford, F.G.S., of Banbury, and Mr. J. Windoes, of Chipping Norton, who, for several years past, have been ardent searchers of Oxfordshire Inferior-Oolite fossils. Owing to their kind consideration I have had the advantage of comparing their cabinets with those of my old friend Mr. Witchell, of Stroud, who has so long worked in the same formations in the Cotteswolds, more especially in the higher beds in the vicinity of Stroud. The results are novel and interesting, and are embodied in the descriptions of the figures in Plates I—IV of this Supplement. In addition I am enabled to illustrate a previously undescribed, but well-marked Inferior-Oolite variety of a recognised Great-Oolite species, as well as a variety of a foreign Lower-Oolite species hitherto unknown in Britain (if not a new species itself). Also further illustrations of three Inferior-Oolite species, and one from the Lias.

TRIGONIA SIGNATA, Ag., var. ZIETENII. Trigon. Supplement, Plate I, figs. 3, 4, 5, 16, 17, and Plate IV, fig. 7.

Trigonia signata is illustrated in the previous portion of this Monograph (page 29, Plate II, figs. 1, 2, 3) by three specimens, two of which are from the Cotteswold Hills, the other from the north-eastern coast of Yorkshire; they all exemplify a single variety, for which I propose the name *Zietenii*. In Yorkshire this *Trigonia* is the sole variety

¹ The manuscript of the Appendix did not come into the possession of the Palæontographical Society until some time after the lamented author's death. The explanations of the plates, and the localities have been revised by Mr. E. A. Walford, F.G.S.