

**CATALOGUE OF THE
MOLLUSCA IN THE
COLLECTION OF THE
BRITISH MUSEUM. PART I**

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Catalogue of the Mollusca in the Collection of the British Museum. Part I by John Edward Gray

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JOHN EDWARD GRAY

**CATALOGUE OF THE
MOLLUSCA IN THE
COLLECTION OF THE
BRITISH MUSEUM. PART I**

CATALOGUE
OF THE
BIVALVE MOLLUSCA
IN
THE COLLECTION
OF THE
BRITISH MUSEUM.

PART I.
PLACENTADÆ AND ANOMIADÆ.

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CATALOGUE OF
PLACENTADÆ & ANOMIADÆ.

FAMILY PLACENTADÆ.

- Placentadæ, *Gray, Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1848, 201.
Placunidæ, *Gray, Syn. B. M.* 1842, 84, 92; *Hermann. Ind.* 279.
Placunoidæ, *Agassiz, Nomen. Zool.* 1847; *Hermann. Ind.* 279.
Placuna, *Lamk. Hist.* 2 ed. vii. 269.
Ostrea, part *Ferus. Tab. Syst.* 40, 1821.
Pectinidæ, part *Fleeming, Brit. Anim.* 381, 1828.
Anomia, part *Hermannsen, Ind.* i. 61, 1846.

Lamarck describes three species of this genus, depending on the general outline and the waved or flat form of the shell, characters which are liable to considerable variations, as may be found on the mere inspection of any considerable number of specimens.

The hinge forms a more permanent character, and affords the means of dividing the species into two sections, and furnishes characters which separate them from each other. The right valve is the flattest, and bears the ridges of the hinge.

Chemnitz gives the best character for the species, and has observed the character furnished by the hinge, which has been overlooked by Lamarck, and by all recent authors.

Synopsis of the Genera.

a. *Hinge-ridges linear, diverging, only slightly raised.*

1. **PLACUNA.** Hinge-ridges of nearly equal length; muscular scar under centre of hinge.
2. **PLACENTA.** Hinge-ridges unequal, hinder much the longest; muscular scars rather in front of middle of hinge.

b. *Hinge-ridge transverse, elevated on a broad and high process.*

3. **HEMIPLACUNA.** A small pit in front of the base of the hinge-ridge. *Fossil.*

a. *Hinge-ridges linear, diverging, only slightly raised.*

1. PLACUNA.

Shell purplish, subopaque; hinge-ridges rapidly diverging from one another at about the angle of 45 degrees, of nearly equal length. Muscular scar under the centre of the hinge.

Placuna, Solander, 1785, fide *Chemn. Conch.* viii. 116; *Humph. Mus. Calonn.* 1797; *Lamk. Syst.* 135, 1801.

Placuna, sp. *Brug. E. M.* t. 174, 175, 1792; *Lamk. Hist.* 2 ed. vii. 270.

Ephippium, *Bolten, Mus.* 1798, 2 ed. 116, 1819; *Chemn. Conch.* vii. 116.

Placenta, β ., *Schumacher, N. Syst.* 113, 1817.

Placuna pectinoides, *Lamk. Ency. Meth.* t. 175, f. 1-4, is a species of *Plicatula*, *Desh.* in *Lamk. Hist.* 2 ed. vii. 271.

1. PLACUNA SELLA.

Shell flexuous, outline rather rhombic, being straight in front and rather notched behind, rather thick, purple; the ridges of the hinge not longer than they are separate from each other at the base.

Anomia Sella, *Gmelin, S. N.* 3345, 1788; *Dillw. R. S.* i. 297.

Placuna Sella, *Lamk. Hist.* vii. 270, No. 1.

Ephippium anglicanum maximum, *Chemn. C.* viii. t. 79, f. 714, cop. *E. M.* t. 174, f. 1.

Placenta Ephippium, *Retz.* 1788.

Placenta Sella, *Gray, Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1848, 113.

a, b. Adult. Purple, flexuous. China.

c. Nearly adult. Flexuous. China. *Mus. Cracherode.*

d. Young. Single valve; flat, purplish. India. Presented by Dr. Horsfield.

e. N. W. Australia. Presented by the Earl of Derby.

Var. β . Shell nearly flat, subquadrangular, notched before and behind.

2. PLACUNA PAPIRACEA.

Shell rather four-sided, nearly flat, thin, hyaline, white and purple varied.

Placuna papyracea, Lamk. *Hist.* vii. n. 2.

Ephippium parvum, Chemn. *Conch.* viii. t. 79, f. 719, cop. E. M. t. 174, f. 2.

Anomia Sella junior, Dillw. *R. S.* i. 297.

Placenta papyracea, Gray, *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1848.

a, b, c, d. Shell thin, slightly flexuous, more or less purple varied. China.

e. Single valve; flat, thin, brown, transparent edges. India. Presented by Dr. Horsfield.

f. Flat; front, and especially the hinder edge notched, thin. Pale purple spotted. Australia. Presented by the Earl of Derby.

Perhaps only the young of *P. Sella*.

3. PLACUNA LINCOLNII.

Shell flat, rather solid, subopaque, outline suborbicular, rounder before and behind; ridges of the hinge elongate, longer than they are separate from each other at the base.

Placenta Lincolnii, Gray, *P. Z. S.* 1848, 113; *Moll.* t. 3.

a. Australia; Mr. W. Davison. Presented by Abraham Lincoln, Esq.

This species is named after the late Mr. Abraham Lincoln, who kindly presented the specimen here described, and who was well known for his fondness for conchology and the liberality with which he allowed persons to use his extensive collection.

2 PLACENTA.

Shell semitransparent, flat, outline suborbicular; ridges of the hinge very gradually diverging from each other, the hinder ridge much the longest. Muscular scar rather in front of the middle of the hinge.

Placenta, Retzius, *Dissert.* 15, 1788 (not Klein); *Schum. N. S.* 113, 1817; Gray, *P. Z. S.* 1848.

Placuna sp. Solander, 1785, *vide Chemn. Cab.* viii. 116; *Brug. E. M.* t. 174, 175, 1792; Lamk. *Hist.* 2 ed. vii. 270.

This shell forms the passage between the genus *Anomia*, or rather *Placunanomia*, and *Placuna*. It shows the gradual change which takes place between the three genera. In *Anomia* there are two muscles for the purpose of attaching itself to marine bodies, which form a plug which is free from the sinus of the shell. In *Placunanomia* there is only a single muscle to perform the same office, and in the more typical species of this genus the plug itself is fixed into the surface of the shell, forming, as it were, part of its substance. In *Hemiplacuna* and *Placuna* there is no muscle or plug for attachment, and the shells are free; but in *Hemiplacuna* there is a rudimentary development of the sinus through which the plug is usually emitted, and the ligament which connects the shell is of the same form as that found in the genera *Anomia* and *Placunanomia*.

The name for the genus is not consistent with the Linnæan canon; but used rather than burthen the genus with two names.

1. HEMIPLACUNA ROZIERI.

Placuna, sp., *Rozière*, *Description d'Égypte, Minéralogie*, t. 11, f. 6.
Hemiplacuna Rozieri, *G. B. Sow. MSS.*; *Gray, P. Z. S.* 1849, 124.

Anomia? or *Placuna?* *Desh. in Lamk. Hist.* vii. 270, note.

a. Fossil. Shore of the Red Sea; Vallée de l'Égarement.
 Purchased of Mr. Sowerby.

2. *ANOMIA*. Shell not eared; upper valve with three subcentral muscular scars; the anterior upper lobe of the notch separated from the cardinal edge; the plug entirely shelley, and quite free from the edge of the notch.
3. *LIMANOMIA*. Shell eared on each side of the umbo; sinus high up near umbo. Muscular scars ? *Fossil*.

1. PLACUNANOMIA.

Upper or dorsal valve with two subcentral muscular scars; the upper scar radiately veined. Bysal notch distinct, converted into a hole by the upper part of the anterior lobe of the notch being soldered to and forming part of the cardinal edge: the plug triangular, gradually enlarging in size; the apex and outer surface next to the body to which it is attached, calcareous, longitudinally striated; the inner surface covered with horny, longitudinal, parallel laminae, and more or less agglutinated to the edge of the notch.

Anomia, *B.*, *Schumacher, Essai*, 1817.

Placunanomia, *Broderip, Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1832, 20; *Müller, Syn.* 176; *Desh. in Lamk. Hist.* vii. 209; *Gray, P. Z. Soc.* 1849, 119.

Pododestmus (*decipiens*), *Philippi, Wiegmann, Arch.* i. 385, 1837.

Anomia, pars, *Blainv. Man. Mol.*; *Montague: Forbes & Hanley.*

Ostræa, sp. *Da Costa; Montague.*

Placunanomia, *D'Orb. Amér. Mèrid.*

Placunomia, *Swains. Malac.* 39, 1840.

Mr. Broderip, who established this genus, does not observe the character furnished by the muscular impressions, or the lobe of the notch: he merely says, "Impressio muscularis in utraque valvâ subcentralis. In valvâ superiore organi adhesionis impressio superaddita." And further, that "the organ of adhesion, which in its bony character (for it is more bone than shell) resembles that of *Anomia*, does not perforate the lower valve directly, but is inserted between the laminae of the internal surface of the lower valve, above the muscular impression and below the hinge, and passes out into an external, irregular, somewhat longitudinal, superficial fissure or cicatrix, which is narrowest at the hinge margin, and which it entirely fills to a level with the surrounding surface."

This form is produced by the gradual increase of the size of the plug and the simultaneous increase of the size of the shell.

Some have considered the "plug" or "stopper" of *Anomia* to be a third valve, which is evidently a mistake. *Philippi (Moll. Sicil.*