

the first half comparing the “flap- or fin-like extensions” to a *wing*, which is not a serial organ, and the second half suggesting a relationship to a genus of shells? As to the specific name, Mr. Green gave the name *Cornubicus* to his specimens as a group, regarding them as specifically one; but if they are to be divided, then his statement that a certain specimen “differs from the others” indicates that the “others” are regarded as the type. As Dr. Hinde says he is “undecided” whether his specimens are different from these others, it follows that the statement *sp. nov.* after the name he gives is quite unproved. I would also point out, what cannot have struck Dr. Hinde, that the name *mirus* implies that the specimens so named are the first discovered. One is not astonished at further examples of a known form, however wonderful, turning up, and Mr. Green showed his specimens to his friends, Cornish and others, and recognized examples in the Penzance Museum before the beginning of last year, when Mr. Fox’s specimens were found. In justice, therefore, to Mr. Green the new name ought to be relegated *in toto* to the synonymy.

As to the nature of the organisms represented, there will probably continue to be a difference of opinion. The use of the word ‘shell’ in Dr. Hinde’s description is an assumption, as it is admitted that nothing now remains but “some compound of iron,” which may be derived, as in the case of the chalk *Ventriculites*, from other things than shells. The irregularity of the outline indicates rather a soft-bodied animal. The downward bend of the flaps in one specimen, their upward bend in another, and the straight direction of their bases in a third indicate that they were flexible. Dr. Hinde seems to think that downward-bending flaps on both sides might appear as upward-bending if the fossil were turned round on its median axis, but this is impossible. He also states that we cannot tell whether the dorsal and ventral sides are alike or not; but as in one specimen each later flap “dips slightly *under*” the next preceding, we can tell that we are looking at the opposite side in any other specimen if, as appears to be the case in his second figure, the later flap lies slightly *over* the next preceding. The supposed rod may very well be the remains of the intestine filled with matrix, or mere folds in the shrunken integument. In Mr. Green’s specimens the bases of the flaps are somewhat swollen, and the distal lines are slightly radial rather than absolutely parallel.

If, then, we figure a soft-bodied animal, lineally elongated, with a series of flexible organs on each side consisting of oblique flaps ending distally in slightly radiating prolongations, the description fits so well with that of a polychætal annelid, as exhibited by many larvæ and by the adult of *Aphrodite*, and so ill with that of any other known group of organisms, that this interpretation of the fossils seems the most reasonable, especially as we have reason to believe that this group was well established before the Devonian period.

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ERRATUM.—On p. 147, line 19, for “adunate” read “inadunate.”