

elongated, and has the cross-hatched apex of *Clathurella*. I have called them *Thesbias* for a sub-genus, having small regard for such subdivisions, and knowing, like others, as yet too little about the deep-sea forms to attempt to classify them for myself. Probably they do not at all belong to this group, but they cannot well go elsewhere at present.

64. *Pleurotoma (Thesbia) xanthias*,¹ n. sp. (Pl. XXVI. fig. 10).

Station 168. July 8, 1874. Lat. 40° 28' S., long. 177° 43' E. Off New Zealand. 1100 fathoms. Blue mud. Bottom temperature 37°·2.

Shell.—Rather like the young of *Columbella rustica*, Linne, being oval, biconical, and a little tumid; the spire is high and conical, the base long and pointed; the surface is smooth and feebly spiralled, and white. *Sculpture*: Longitudinals—there are fine hair-like lines of growth, which are slightly puckered below the suture. Spirals—there is a blunt carination in the middle of the whorls, below which the surface is scored with flat threads parted by slight irregular lines; above the keel on the shoulder these spirals are wholly absent. *Colour* white, with a glossy surface. *Spire* high, conical. *Apex* has probably 3 to 3½ whorls, but the extreme tip is broken and only 2 remain; they are yellow and conical, and are microscopically scored by minute narrow raised lines which are straight above, but below slope very obliquely to the left; they are not reticulated as in *Clathurella*. *Whorls* 4¼, below the apical nucleus; they are feebly angulated in the middle; the last is large, tumid, and has a swollen base prolonged into a broad triangular lop-sided snout, which is not at all emarginate in front. *Suture* very slight indeed, but distinct. *Mouth* narrowly oblong, pointed above, and having no canal in front. *Outer lip* thin, flatly arched, with a deep broad sinus which lies up at the very suture, and with no shelf at the insertion; below the sinus the edge of the lip sweeps forward in a great wing-like curve. *Inner lip*: there is a mere thin glaze on the body; its line is barely convex on the body, subangulatedly concave at its junction with the pillar, which is longish, oblique to the left, and slightly truncate at the point. H. 0·77 in. B. 0·4. Penultimate whorl, height 0·13, breadth of first remaining whorl, 0·03. Mouth, height 0·47, breadth 0·2.

The mouth is somewhat broken and the shell considerably obscured by an *Actinia* which has enveloped it. This species has a strong general likeness to *Pleurotoma (Thesbia) membranacea*, Wats., but is smaller, narrower, less ventricose, with a higher spire and keeled whorls. From *Clathurella pachia*, Wats., which is also very like this species, it differs in being larger, broader, with keeled whorls and a scored, not reticulated, apex. Probably those who have not seen the shells will be tempted to unite these species, but when actual specimens are examined the essential differences are very striking.

¹ *ξανθίας*, yellow head, so called from the colour of the tip.