

Half a century later¹ another communication was made to the Royal Society by the learned A. P. du Pont, on some specimens of the same animal which had been sent to him by a friend in Jamaica. Gmelin, ignorant of the earlier memoir of Breyn, established, on the strength of the latter memoir of Du Pont, a new species, which is described in his *Systema Naturæ*² under the name of *Doris radiata*. Previously, however, to the publication of Gmelin's work, the animal had been recognised as the type of a new genus by Forster. The two Forsters (J. Reinhold and George), who accompanied Captain Cook on his second voyage, observed the animal during the cruise to the Cape, and the elder Forster gave it the name *Glaucus* ("nomen ex deo marino et colore animalis")³. Forster seems to have kept up a correspondence with Blumenbach, and to have sent him an account of the new genus, which was published in his manual of natural history. Gmelin also had received, either from Forster himself or from Blumenbach, some account of *Glaucus*, but he does not seem to have perceived the identity of this form with the Mollusc which he had already described as *Doris radiata*.⁴ A few years later (1795) Poli changed the name into *Glaucoderma*.⁵ The elder Forster (J. R.) left among his papers a short treatise on the genus *Glaucus*, which was subsequently published by Blumenbach, with additional notes, in Voigt's *Magazin*,⁶ and about the same time a figure of the animal by Blumenbach appeared in the 5th part of his *Abbildungen Nat. Gegenst.*⁷ From these two last mentioned publications dates our knowledge of this animal. Cuvier⁸ adopted the generic name of *Glaucus*, chiefly, however, on account of the description given of the animal by the French naturalist Péron.⁹

After Forster several French naturalists who accompanied various scientific expeditions published descriptions of this interesting form. La Martinière, who was the companion of La Peÿrouse, and shared his fate, sent some scientific communications with remarks on these animals to the editors of the *Journal de Physique*; an abstract of these is to be

¹ An account of a remarkable marine insect, *Phil. Trans.*, vol. liii., 1763, pp. 57, 58, pl. iii.

² *Systema Naturæ*, vi., 1780, p. 3105.

³ G. Forster, *loc. cit.*, p. 49. "Monday, 14th Sept. 1772. We had also at various intervals found the sea covered with animals belonging to the class of Mollusca, one of which, of a blue colour, in shape like a snail, with four arms divided into many branches, was named *Glaucus atlanticus*."

⁴ With his usual carelessness, Gmelin (*loc. cit.*, p. 3149) had not remarked that the "vermis marinus" of La Martinière was a form nearly identical with the species of Du Pont, and considered it to be a "*Clio*."

⁵ The *Glaucus* of Klein (*Hist. nat. pisc. missi.*, v., 1749, p. 3), seems to be the *Naucrates* of Rafinesque.

⁶ Voigt, *Magazin*, v. 4, April 1803, p. 336, Taf. viii. This "*Magazin für den neuesten Zustand der Naturkunde*" (i.-xii., 1796-1806) is not to be confounded with the continuation of Lichtenberg's "*Magazin für das Neueste aus der Physik und Naturgeschichte*" (i.-xii., 1781-1797), which was also edited by Voigt. The article cited here is found reproduced in Lichtenberg's, *Forsteri descript. animal.*, 1844, pp. 10-12.

⁷ Blumenbach, *Abbild.-Natur. Gegenst.*, i.-x., 1796-1810, Taf. xlvi.

⁸ *Ann. du Muséum*, vi., 1805, p. 426, Règne anim., &c.

⁹ Péron (Péron et Lesueur, *Hist. de la fam. des moll. Ptérop.*, pp. 75, 80, pl. ii. fig. 9,—*Glaucus australis*, *Ann. du Mus.*, t. xv., 1810) regarded *Glaucus* as belonging to the Pteropoda, although Cuvier had already, only by the help of Péron's drawings, assigned the animal to its proper place ("in the neighbourhood of the *Scyllæ* and *Tritonis*").