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M. J. M. Bless (*).—ON A CASE OF DIMORPHISM IN THE LAST JUVENILE STAGE OF A HOLLINID OSTRACODE FROM THE NAMURIAN B-C OF THE LA CAMOCHA MINE (GIJON, N. SPAIN)

One sample from the La Camocha Coal Mine (Gijón, N. Spain), kindly placed at the disposal of the author by Dr. R. H. Wagner (Sheffield, U. K.), has yielded a very interesting hollinid ostracode. The rather well-preserved specimens are believed to be comparable to *Hollinella? avonensis* (LATHAM, 1932) from the Upper Limestone Group (Namurian A) of Scotland. Detailed examination of the material has led to the conclusion that some of the «adult» forms probably belong to the last immature stage because of their size and the relative width of the velum in presumable males.

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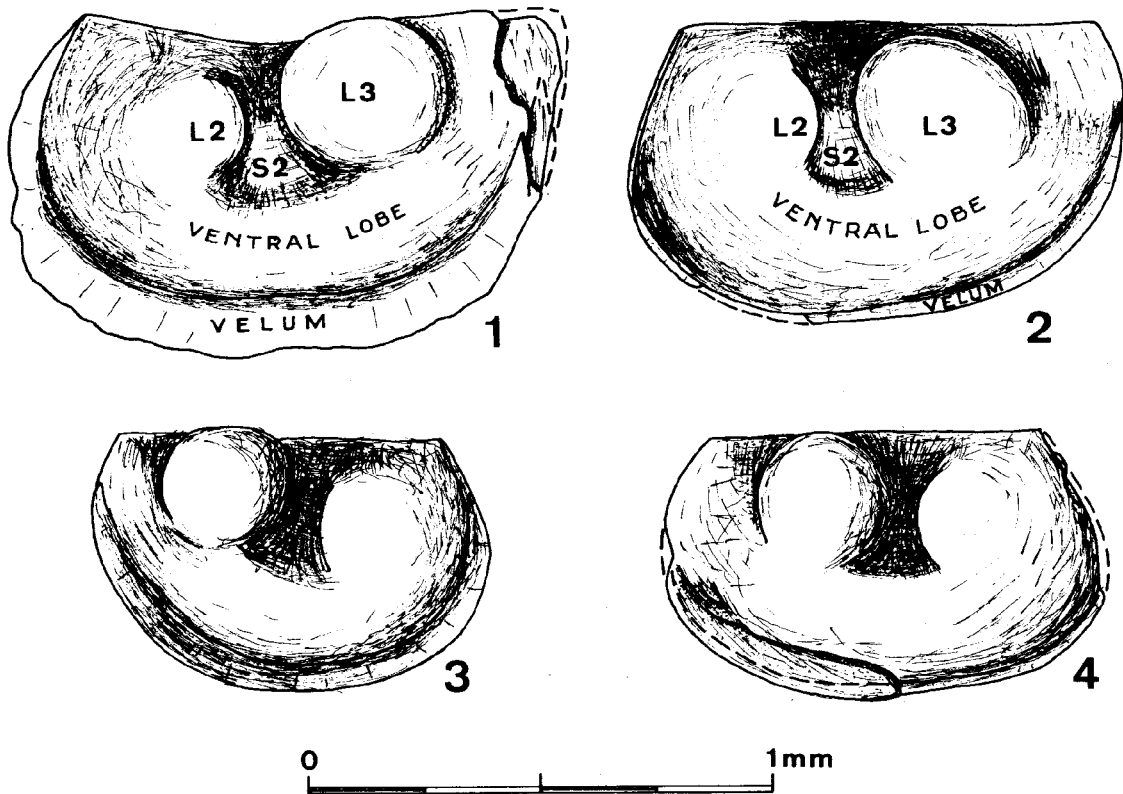


Fig. 1-4. *Hollinella?* cf. *avonensis* LATHAM, 1932. 1) Left view of presumable male of 9th instar. RW 1152-46. 2) Left view of presumable female of 9th instar. RW 1152-5. 3) Right view of presumable male of 8th instar. RW 1152-41. 4) Right view of presumable female of 8th instar. RW 1152-42.

A wide-spread opinion among ostracode specialists holds that well-developed dimorphism should only occur in the adult stage. It is suggested, however, that pre-adult dimorphism may be rather common in several families of ostracodes.

The present sample was collected by Dr. R. H. Wagner in the La Camocha Mine at sample location RW 1152. This is a marine band overlying a coal seam at 18.60 m below the workable coal seam «H». According to NEVES (1964), this marine band should be placed in the Namurian B-C. Unfortunately, the location is no longer accessible since that part of the mine has been abandoned.

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Systematic description.

Order PALAEOCOPIIDA Henningsmoen, 1953
 Sub-order BEYRICHCOPINA Scott, 1961
 Family HOLLINIDAE Swartz, 1936
 Genus HOLLINELLA Coryell, 1928

Hollinella? cf. *avonensis* (LATHAM, 1932)

Figs. 1-16

