

equal to more than half the length; anterior extremity obliquely rounded, posterior truncated, produced below the middle into a beak-like or irregularly squamous process; dorsal margin highest over the hinge-tubercle, thence sloping with a sinuous curve backwards, and ending in a well-marked angle, ventral margin nearly straight; seen from above, the outline is oblong and subhexagonal, with parallel sides, which converge gently towards the front, abruptly and almost at a right angle behind; anterior extremity wide, subtruncated, and having a small central mucro, posterior produced in the middle into a broad protuberance; end view vaulted, dorsal margin arched, ventral broad and only slightly convex. Surface of the valves marked with small, shallow pittings, which are rather irregularly disposed and obscurely rounded. Length, 1-50th of an inch (.5 mm.).

Found in a dredging from a depth of 7 fathoms off Ascension Island; the single valve shown in figures *e-h* is from Balfour Bay, Kerguelen Island, but it may well be doubted whether it really belongs to this species. The type specimens were from Mauritius and Colon-Aspinwall.

[Pl. XV. fig. 7, *a-h*. *a* Shell of Ascension Island specimen seen from left side, *b* from above, *c* from below, *d* from front; figures *e-h* exhibit similar views of a right valve from Balfour Bay. Magnified 60 diameters.]

39. *Cythere curvicostata*, n. sp. (Pl. XII. fig. 4, *a-d*).

Carapace compressed oblong; seen from the side, subclavate, rather higher in front than behind, greatest height not so much as half the length; anterior extremity well rounded and bordered with a regular row of small teeth, which extend a short distance along the ventral margin; posterior subtruncated, slightly produced below the middle, the produced portion divided into teeth similar to those of the anterior extremity; dorsal margin highest in front, and falling by two abrupt but shallow steps towards the posterior extremity; ventral margin straight. The lateral surfaces of the shell exhibit two or three sinuous longitudinal ribs extending nearly the whole length of the valves, and towards the margins some irregularly-disposed smaller ribs; the interspaces are occupied by small fossæ closely set and arranged in longitudinal rows; seen from above, the outline is oblong, thrice as long as broad, nearly equal in width throughout, the sides parallel, the extremities broad and subtruncate; end view subquadrangular, height greater than the width. Length, 1-45th of an inch (.53 mm.).

One or two specimens only in a dredging from near Booby Island, in a depth of 6 to 8 fathoms. In style of surface ornament as well as in general shape the species is not very unlike the British *Cythere emaciata*, but a critical examination shows numerous important differences. Yet the peculiar disposition of the rib-work and associated fossæ, the finely-dentated margins and fan-like posterior expansions of the valve-margins suggest either a community of descent, or (which is scarcely likely) exposure to con-