

*Tapes (Amygdala) exalbida* (Chemnitz).

*Venus exalbida*, Chemnitz, Conch. Cab., vol. xi. p. 225, pl. ccii. fig. 1974.

*Venus exalbida*, Sowerby, Thesaurus, vol. ii. pl. clxi. fig. 193.

*Venus exalbida*, Reeve, Conch. Icon., vol. xiv. fig. 13.

*Chione exalbida*, Deshayes, Cat. Conchif. Brit. Mus., p. 154.

*Habitat.*—Station 316, off the east side of the Falkland Islands, in 4 to 5 fathoms; mud.

This species is also quoted as coming from the Strait of Magellan by Sowerby and Reeve. It attains a large size, measuring at times as much as 110 mm. in length. Young shells are more squarely truncate posteriorly than full-grown examples, which become almost subrostrate at the extremity. The form of the lunule also alters from roundly cordate in the young to broad lanceolate in the adult. Römer places this species in his section of *Venus* which he has named *Katelysia*.

## Subfamily VENERINÆ.

*Venus*, Linné.*Venus philomela*, n. sp. (Pl. II. figs. 7-7b).

Testa ovata, inæquilateralis, antice brevior, alba, versus umbones interdum purpureo-roseo tincta, concentrice tenuiter lirata. Lunula anguste cordata, linea impressa circumscripta. Umbones parvi, parum prominentes, ad apicem læves. Cardo dentibus tribus in utraque valva instructus, in dextra postremo, in sinistra mediano bifido. Margo valvarum intus minute denticulatus. Impressiones musculares irregulariter ovatae, anteriori paulo angustiori. Sinus pallii parvus, brevis, triangularis.

This shell is of a transversely ovate form, narrower in front than behind, moderately thick and decidedly inequilateral, the apex of the beaks being situated at a point marking off three sevenths of the entire length of the shell from the anterior end. The latter narrows to a somewhat sharply rounded extremity. The front dorsal slope is very oblique, rather rectilinear at first, then gradually curving into the arcuate end. The posterior dorsal margin is almost horizontal, nearly straight for some distance until it commences to descend and curve, forming the broadly rounded lateral margin. The ventral outline is widely arcuate, curving up equally at both ends.

The umbones are small, smooth, glossy, incurved and directed anteriorly. The lunule is rather narrow, striated by the fine terminations of the concentric ridges which are interrupted by a distinct impressed line or stria which limits the lunule. There is scarcely any posterior dorsal area, it being very narrow, linear, and not defined. The hinge consists of three diverging teeth in each valve. Those of the right are unequal, the front one being smallest, lamellar, subparallel with the margin of the valve, the