

central one most elevated, triangular, the hindmost being nearly as large, posteriorly oblique, and somewhat bifid at the top. In the left valve both the anterior and posterior teeth are slender, the central one being stout and distinctly bifid. The concentric liræ are very fine at first, gradually increase with the growth of the shell, are rather sharp and up-turned so that they are rough to the touch, the finger being passed from the umbo downwards. They attenuate at the sides, and number about thirty-three in a specimen measuring 9 mm. in height. The muscular impressions are subequal, the anterior rather narrower than the posterior, and situated a little lower down. The sinus in the pallial scar is small and angular. The crenulation of the margin is so fine that it is only just visible to the naked eye, and commencing in front beneath the umbones extends all round except along the posterior dorsal slope. The ligament is wanting in all the valves obtained, but is probably small, judging from the remains and the groove wherein it rests. The colour within and without is either totally white or more or less stained with purplish-rose in the umbonal region.

Length $12\frac{1}{2}$ mm., height 10, diameter $6\frac{3}{4}$. Another specimen is 12 mm. long, $9\frac{1}{2}$ high, and 6 in diameter.

Habitat.—Nightingale Island, Mid South Atlantic, 100 to 150 fathoms.

This species recalls to mind the *Venus gayi* of Hupé, a Chilian and West Patagonian species, which, contrary to that now described, has the hinder end more acuminate than the anterior, the posterior slope more oblique, is rather more solid, has a more coarsely crenulated inner margin to the valves, and less acute stronger concentric ridges. In addition to these differences there are others in the hinge, muscular scars, and pallial sinus.

Venus torresiana, Smith (Pl. III. figs. 1-1e).

Venus torresiana, Smith, Report Zool. Coll. "Alert," p. 94, pl. vi. figs. M-M2.

Testa transversa, antice rotundata, postice subtruncata, alba, obsolete rufo radiatim maculata, ad apices et lunulam rufescens, concentricè lirata, infer liras radiatim striata, paulo inæquilateralis. Margo dorsalis anterior arcuatus ad finem lunulæ leviter incisus, posterior paululum obliquus, rectiusculus, postice subangulatus. Extremitas antica rotundata, postica arcuatim subtruncata, latior, ventralis late curvata. Lunula elongato-cordiformis, perspicue circumscripta, concentricè lamellatim striata. Area angusta, striata. Lamellæ concentricæ antice et in medio liriformes, postice tenues, elevatæ. Dentes cardinales tres in utraque valva, in dextra posteriori, in sinistra mediano aliquanto bipartito. Sinus pallii mediocris, triangularis. Margo internus valvarum concinne denticulatus.

The form of this species is longer than high and somewhat inequilateral, the anterior end being rather the shorter. The length increases much more than the height as the