

The variety of this well-known West Indian species from the Cape Verde Islands is not so prolonged and acuminate posteriorly as the normal form, the concentric ribs are not so interrupted and lamellar behind, and the valves are ornamented with four brown rays, three being the usual number. *Venus cypria*, Sowerby, from the west coast of Central America, I regard as a variety of this species, and *Venus varicosa* of the same author appears to be another form of it with the concentric ribs excessively thickened.

Venus (Chione) calophylla, Philippi.

- Venus calophylla*, Philippi, Wiegmann's Archiv für Nat., 1836, vol. i. p. 229, pl. viii. fig. 2.
Venus calophylla, Hanley, Cat. Rec. Biv., Append., p. 361, pl. xvi. fig. 26.
Venus calophylla, Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. xxiii. fig. 114.
Venus calophylla, Sowerby, Thes. Conch., vol. ii. p. 724, pl. clx. fig. 176.
Venus thiara, Sowerby, Gen. Rec. and Foss. Shells, fig. 3.
Venus thiara, Reeve, Conch. Syst., vol. i. pl. lxvii. fig. 3.
Venus (Anaitis) calophylla, Römer, Mal. Blätt., 1865, vol. xii. p. 157.
Venus (Circumphalus) calophylla, H. and A. Adams, Genera, vol. ii. p. 422.
Venus cumingii, Sowerby, Thes. Conch., vol. ii. p. 725, pl. clvii. fig. 122.

Habitat.—Station 187, west of Cape York, North Australia, in 3 to 28 fathoms; Station 203, Philippine Islands, in 20 fathoms; and Port Jackson, Sydney, in 4 to 18 fathoms.

This species is very variable in the number of the concentric lamellæ. In a specimen from China there are only twelve, whilst in another of equal size from North-east Australia there are as many as twenty-eight. *Venus cumingii* certainly cannot be regarded in any other light than as a mere variety. The extra rotundity in the type is in a great measure due to its being a young shell, which if allowed to have arrived at maturity would no doubt have prolonged the hinder end of the shell as is the case with this species.

Venus (Chione) foliacea, Philippi.

- Venus foliacea*, Philippi, Abbild., vol. ii. p. 107, pl. v. fig. 1.
Chione foliacea, Deshayes, Cat. Conchif. Brit. Mus., p. 122.
Venus thiara, Sowerby, Thes. Conch., vol. ii. p. 723, pl. clviii. figs. 125-130.
Venus thiara, Reeve, Conch. Icon., pl. xxiii. figs. 109, 110.
Chione retroversa, Deshayes, Cat. Conchif. Brit. Mus., p. 123.
Venus (Anaitis) foliacea, Römer, Mal. Blätt., 1865, vol. xii. p. 160.

Habitat.—Stations 186, 187, and 189, all in the region of Torres Strait, North Australia, at depths varying from 3 to 28 fathoms (Challenger); Japan, Port Curtis, Queensland, Ceylon (British Museum); Red Sea and Madagascar (Philippi).

This species, although very closely related to *Venus tiara* (Dillwyn, auct.), may perhaps be sufficiently distinguishable. The specimens figured by Sowerby and Reeve are remarkable for the development of the posterior lobe of the concentric lamellæ, and