

*Venus (Chione) mindanensis*, n. sp. (Pl. III. figs. 4-4b).

Testa subquadrata, antice ab apice oblique subtruncata, postice inferne producta et paululum acuminata, valde inæquilateralis, costellis radiantibus tenuibus lirisque concentricis inæqualibus subdistantibus concinne cancellata, sordide albida, versus umbones plus minusve rubescens. Lunula elongato-cordata, bene definita. Area parva, linearis aut nulla. Dentes cardinales in valva dextra tres, quarum postremus paulo maximus, alii duo subparalleli, graciliores. In valva sinistra duo anteriores valde divergentes; anterior elongatus, lamellæformis, tertius posticus elongatus, gracilis. Impressio muscularis anterior elongata, subpyriformis, quam posteriori paulo minor. Sinus pallii perbrevis. Margo valvarum intus minute crenulatus.

The form of this species is that of an irregular quadrangle, of which the anterior slope, in conjunction with the posterior dorsal margin, forms at the beak one angle which is almost but not quite so acute as a right angle.

The posterior dorsal margin is only slightly oblique and arcuate, curving gently into the lateral margin, which, together with the ventral edge, forms a somewhat sharply curved extremity, rather low down. The anterior slope descends in an abrupt manner, is gently convex, and rounds into the lower margin, rather less acutely than at the hinder extremity. The umbones are fairly prominent, situated very forward, and are well incurved. The lunule is distinctly defined by a deep stria, elongate-cordate in shape, and sculptured with five or six fine radiating costellæ which, being crossed by the lines of growth, become subgranulose. The radiating ridges which ornament the exterior surface are fine, but not crowded, regular towards the umbones, but further down the valves other intercalary ones are met with which are rather finer. A few of the costellæ near the lunule are a trifle stouter and more approximated than the rest. The concentric liræ are thin, crenulated by the radiating riblets, reflexed towards the beaks, especially anteriorly, where they are appressed upon the ribs above. They appear to be comparatively further apart during the earlier stages of growth, and become more numerous and crowded as the shell increases. They differ in thickness, and their number is variable. The hinge is not powerful, and consists of three teeth in each valve. Of those in the right the hindmost is slightly the strongest and subparallel with the ligamental groove, the two others, of which the front one is the more slender, incline the opposite way, and are in a line with each other and almost with the anterior slope. The anterior tooth of the left valve is lamellar, subparallel with the margin, and elongate; the central one located just beneath the beak, is short, thicker, and slopes in the opposite direction, and the hindmost is very slender and borders the ligamental groove. The denticulation of the margin of the valves is very minute, especially posteriorly.

Length 8 mm., height 7, diameter 4.