

the margin is a sign of maturity. As d'Orbigny's typical specimens in the British Museum are larger than any as yet known of *Astarte magellanica*, and have smooth margins to the valves, it seems likely that that species has not wrinkled edges. This, however, is uncertain, as the adult shell possibly has yet to be discovered.

Subfamily CARDITINÆ.

*Cardita*, Brugière.

*Cardita calyculata* (Linné).

*Cardita calyculata*, Lamurek, Anim. sans vert., vol. vi. p. 24.

*Cardita calyculata*, Philippi, Enum. Moll. Sicil., vol. i. p. 55.

*Cardita muricata*, Sowerby, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1832, p. 195.

*Cardita muricata*, Reeve, Conch. Icon., vol. i. pl. iv. fig. 18, var.

*Habitat*.—Station 162, off East Monceeur Island, Bass Strait, in 38 to 40 fathoms, and off Tenerife, in 70 fathoms.

After a careful comparison of the few small valves from Bass Strait, with specimens of the same size from the coast of Piedmont, I am unable to detect any good and sufficient reasons for separating them specifically. The number of costæ is the same, but a few of them upon the anterior half of the valves may perhaps be slightly coarser in the shells under examination than in those from the Mediterranean, and the anterior end in the latter does perhaps project forward rather further beyond the umbones than in Australian shells. The hinge, however, is absolutely identical in both.

*Cardita muricata* of Sowerby, said to have been found at Crescent and Rapa Islands, and of which there is a specimen in the British Museum from Nairai, Fiji Islands, does not, in my judgment, present any satisfactory distinctive features.

The shell figured by Reeve under this name has the posterior ribs closer together than in the types described by Sowerby.

*Cardita excavata*, Deshayes.

*Carditu excavata*, Deshayes, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1852, p. 100, pl. xvii. figs. 1-3.

*Habitat*.—Port Jackson, Sydney, in 2 to 10 fathoms.

Three or four other forms of *Cardita*, viz., *Cardita essingtonensis*, Deshayes, *Cardita umbilicata*, Deshayes, and *Cardita pica*, Reeve, are very closely allied to the present species, and will probably eventually prove to be variations of the same shell. If the spotting and fine reddish lines on the ribs of this species were not somewhat peculiar, I should feel no hesitation in uniting it with *Cardita essingtonensis* or *Cardita pica* or *Cardita umbilicata*, these so-called species evidently belonging to one and the same.