

*Nucula* sp.

*Habitat.*—Station 191, off the Arrou Islands, in 800 fathoms; green mud.

Only a single dead valve of this species was discovered, and that not in a good state of preservation. Its existence is worthy of record, as indicating the presence at this locality of a large species which in many respects closely resembles the *Nucula decussata* of Europe. It is perhaps a trifle flatter than that form, and the anterior side in the region of the lunule is rather more concave, but the external sculpture is about the same. The hinge-plate and the teeth appear to be less strongly developed, and the outer or ventral margin is not quite so distinctly lirated within.

The valve under examination is 22 mm. in length and  $18\frac{1}{2}$  in height.

*Nucula niponica*, n. sp. (Pl. XVIII. figs. 8–8a).

Testa magna, tenuis, ovalis, valde inæquilateralis, epidermide nitida olivacea induta, incrementi lineis tenuibus striata, lineis paucis radiantibus obsoletis impressa. Lunula inconspicua, impressione haud profunda circumdata. Umbones pallidi, convoluti, circa in  $\frac{1}{4}$  longitudinis totius positi. Pagina interna iridescens, cæruleo-margaritacea, radiatim tenuissime substriata, ad marginem acuta et integra. Fossa ligamenti profunda, intra valvas oblique projecta. Dentes elongati, acuti, in numero circa 25, quorum octo ante umbones sunt.

This is a fine large species, comparatively thin, of an oval form, the anterior extremity being just a trifle more acute than the posterior. It is very inequilateral, and clothed with a highly glossy olivaceous epidermis, which is paler towards the umbones, and exhibits, at irregular intervals, narrow, concentric, darker zones. The sculpture consists of fine lines of growth (some of them amounting to shallow concentric grooves) and several feebly expressed radiating impressed lines. The lunule is rather long, prominent along the middle, not clearly defined, but only marked off by a shallow depression, and occupies the greater part of the anterior slope. The beaks are pale, small, incurved, and located at barely one-fourth of the total length from the anterior end. The interior is iridescent pearly, the predominant colour being blue. It exhibits a very minute radiating substriation, and is surrounded by a sharp, simple, non-crenate edge. The hinge-teeth are fairly strong, longish, acute, about twenty-five in number, of which only eight are in front of the deep, oblique, inwardly projecting ligament-pit.

Length 22 mm., height 15, diameter 9.

*Habitat.*—Station 232, south of the Island of Nipon, Japan, in 345 fathoms; green mud.