

Habitat.—Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope, in 15 to 20 fathoms.

The above description is based upon the specimens obtained by the Challenger.

This is the first record, I believe, of the existence in a living state of this most interesting species. The genus is already known as recent, one species from the Catalina Islands having been described by Carpenter as *Nuculina munita*, and another from the Korean Straits by A. Adams under the name of *Huxleyia sulcata*.

Only three left valves of this species were obtained. They differ from Crag specimens in being larger, and consequently appear rather higher, as, with the growth of the shell, the height increases more than the length. The hinge-teeth are precisely the same in some of the fossil specimens, but usually appear to be somewhat fewer.

I am not quite convinced that the *Nucula miliaris* of Deshayes, from the Paris Basin, is the same species as the Crag shell. There appear to be certain differences in form, in the somewhat pearly interior and position of the ligament which distinguish the former.

Mr. Searles' Wood¹ does not assign any reason for abolishing his name *Pleurodon* and substituting for it that of *Nucinella*. It may have been that he found that the appellation *Pleurodonta*² had previously been employed in the Mollusca, and in his judgment that it too closely resembled the genus created by himself. Be that as it may, I do not think he was justified in assigning a new name to this genus, seeing that d'Orbigny in the mean time had suggested that of *Nuculina*.³

Leda, Schumacher.

Leda semen, n. sp. (Pl. XIX. figs. 2–2a).

Testa minuta, convexa, inæquilateralis, oblonga, antice acute rotundata, postice breviter rostrata, extremitatem versus radiatim impressa, incrementi lineis tenuiter striata, sordide albida. Margo dorsi anticus elongatus, leviter convexus et declivis, posticus brevior, primo rectiusculus, dein ad extremitatem curvatus. Margo inferior late arcuatus, postice leviter sinuatus. Umbones aliquanto prominentes, involuti, postice inclinati, postmediani. Linea cardinis mediocriter valida, dentibus novenis posterioribus, duodenisque anterioribus instructa. Fossa ligamenti triangularis, profunda.

This very small species is fairly solid, very inequilateral, elongate, sharply rounded at the anterior end and shortly beaked behind, the point, however, not being very acute. The valves exhibit a broad shallow depression down the posterior side, which causes, at that part, a faint sinuation in the otherwise regularly and broadly curved lower outline. The dorsal margin is oblique on both sides, slightly excurved in front, straightish at first behind, and then curving downwards to the extremity. The sculpture consists of very fine lines of growth only. The beaks are a little prominent, curve inwards towards one

¹ Monog. Crag Moll., vol. ii. p. 72 (1852–55).

² Fischer de Waldheim Mus. Demidof., iii. (1807).

³ Paléont. Franç. Terr. Crét., t. iii. p. 161 (1843).