Limopsis cancellata (Reeve).

Pectunculus cancellatus, Reeve, Conch. Icon., vol. i. fig. 39.

Limopsis woodwardi, A. Adams, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1862, p. 231.

Limopsis philippii, A. Adams, op. cit., p. 230.

Habitat.—Flinders Passage, Station 186, Wednesday Island, Cape York; and Station 188, in 28 fathoms (Challenger); Singapore (Reeve); Lizard Island, Torres Strait (Adams).

After a careful study of the above so-called species I cannot find any good reasons for their separation. The small difference in form is of little importance, as all the species of this genus appear to be more or less variable in this respect. The sculpture of all three is essentially the same, and the hinge-teeth, about twenty-two in number, and the ligamental pit are quite similar in all. The inner edge of the valves is smooth and flattened, the extreme outer edge being minutely crenulated by the external ridges. The epidermis is finely pilose, and in concentric fringes.

Limopsis bassi, n. sp. (Pl. XVIII. figs. 6-6a).

Testa Limopsidi cancellatæ similis, sed major, magis obliqua et transversa, dentibus minus numerosis munita, intus et extra plus minusve fusco tineta.

This species has a clathrate exterior like that of Limopsis cancellata of Reeve, but may be distinguished by its more transverse and oblique growth, which appears to be constant in the good series of specimens at hand. It is also a larger shell, and, when the thick pilose epidermis is removed, is seen to be stained with a reddish-brown tint, except towards the umbones. The hinge-teeth are only about fifteen or sixteen in number, or six or seven fewer than in Limopsis cancellata, and that too, a smaller form. The striated interior and the smooth flattened outer margin are alike in both species, except that the latter in Limopsis bassi is usually tinted with reddish-brown.

Length 22 mm., height 18, diameter 9.

Habitat.—Station 162, off East Moncœur Island, Bass Strait, in 38 fathoms; sand and shells.

To show the variation in form, I give the following dimensions of another unusually long specimen:—length 20 mm., height 15½, diameter 8½.

Limopsis brazieri, Angas.

Limopsis brazieri, Angas, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1871, pp. 21, 101.

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

I have not much to add to Mr. Angas' description of this little species, but may observe that the fine concentric ridges are seen under a strong lens to be somewhat