

## Family TUBULIBRANCHIA, Cuvier, 1830.

Genera. 1. *Cæcum*, Fleming. 2. *Vermetus*, Adanson. 3. *Siliquaria*, Bruguière

1. *Cæcum*, Fleming, 1824. (See Appendix No. 6.)

2. *Vermetus*, Adanson, 1757.

*Vermetus* (?) *cyclicus*,<sup>1</sup> n. sp. (Pl. XXXI. fig. 1).

September 8, 1874. Flinders Passage, Cape York, North-east Australia. 7 fathoms.

Station 186. September 8, 1874. Lat. 10° 30' S., long. 142° 18' E. Wednesday Island, Cape York, North-east Australia. 8 fathoms. Coral mud.

*Shell*.—Small, thin, white, discoidal, of slow and regular increase, with the coiled-up embryonic tip of a *Cæcum*: below this the early part of the shell is straight and polished, with only very feeble microscopic annular lines, and rises out of the plane of the disc, but is attached to the succeeding whorl across which it lies; all the latter part of the shell is sparsely and circularly ribbed as in *Scalaria*; the whole surface, including both the ribs and the much wider interstices, is fretted with exquisitely delicate, sharp, and regular longitudinal scratches, of which about five go to the thousandth of an inch; there are also between the ribs very feeble, narrow, and sparse circular threadlets, which only appear as being faintly translucent on the dead frosted surface; there is about one of these to each thousandth of an inch; exclusive of the embryonic apex of 1½ whorls, and exclusive also of the little straight part which follows, the shell presents about 1½ whorls, which are discoidally coiled, adjacent, and adherent to one another; the mouth is circular.

Height (exclusive of projection of embryonic shell), 0·019 in., height (including this projection), 0·027. Breadth, 0·035; breadth of last whorl at mouth, 0·017; breadth of embryonic tip, 0·0044. Length of tip and smooth part, 0·019.

This is a very curious and beautiful little shell, whose generic place is very doubtful. *Ctiloceras* or Ramshorn suggested itself as a suitable name for a new genus near *Cæcum*, but the creation of a new genus could really not be justified for a shell about which so little is known.

<sup>1</sup> κυκλικός, circular.