

17. *Bittium aëdonium*,¹ Watson (Pl. XLI. fig. 6).

Cerithium (Bittium) aëdonium, Watson, Prelim. Report, pt. 5, Journ. Linn. Soc. Lond., vol. xv. p. 121, sp. 21.

Station 135c. October 17, 1873. Nightingale Island, Tristan da Cunha Islands. 100 to 150 fathoms.

Shell.—Small, narrow, conical, blunt, with faintly convex outlines, which are deeply broken at the sutures, rather abruptly truncate at the base, reticulately tubercled, solid, translucent, glossy, white. *Sculpture*: Longitudinals—there are on the last whorl 19 rows of small, narrow, but longish, rounded, rather coarse tubercles, parted by furrows, which are shallow, rather unequal, and fully broader than the ribs. There are over the whole surface fine irregular lines of growth, which are, as usual, strongest on the base. Spirals—on all but the first two whorls there are three spiral threads, which rise into tubercles as they cross the longitudinals; they are parted by deep narrow furrows; of these three the two lower are strong, the upper of the two being a little the stronger and more prominent. The third and highest spiral is not materially smaller than the others, but is much less prominent, the whole whorl being at this part constricted. The suture lies immediately above this spiral. Beneath the lower spiral the whorl is sharply constricted, and a very minute plain spiral lies in the bottom of the furrow and immediately above the suture: this minute spiral is the edge of the strongish spiral which encircles the base. Round the top of the pillar is a minute sharp spiral thread, which runs round the back into the columellar canal. There are microscopic spirals over the whole surface. *Colour* pure translucent white. *Spire* is high and narrow: its outlines, which are a good deal interrupted by the sutural constriction, are slightly convex. *Apex*, of $1\frac{1}{2}$ whorls, is tumid, bluntly rounded, a little oblique, and glossy white. *Whorls* 9, rounded, contracted above and constricted below. The base is rather truncate and rounded. *Suture* very minute, but well indicated by the broad open furrow in which it lies. *Mouth* oval, little pointed above, with a small well-rounded canal at the pillar. *Outer lip* sharp, scarcely incurved above, not prominent, but patulous below, angulated at the corner of the canal, round which it is scarcely reverted. *Pillar* straight, prominent, and pretty strong, with a sharp twisted edge at its point. *Inner lip* a mere glaze on the body, but forming a thin distinct edge along the length of the pillar. H. 0.17 in. B. 0.057. Penultimate whorl, height 0.032. Mouth, height 0.039, breadth 0.025.

This species is more like *Bittium cinctum*, Watson, and *Bittium depauperatum*, Watson, than anything else I know. These are both Madeiran species. Its whorls are much more rounded than in either of these. The base is not produced into a rounded cone as in *Bittium cinctum*, Da Costa, but is rather abruptly truncate and very slightly contracted; it is also plain, and has not the spiral threads which appear on these two species. The contraction of the whorls into the suture makes

¹ ἀηδόνας, belonging to a Nightingale.