

Expedition on March 25, 1878, west of St Thomas, Danish West Indies, at a depth of 390 fathoms.

*Observations.*—None of the examples exceeded the proportions above given, and they look as if they were young and immature specimens of some species at present unknown. I have in my collection a number of young specimens of a *Magasella*, agreeing in size and shape with the one under description, which were dredged by Commodore Acton in the Straits of Magellan. I felt inclined to consider these last as the young age of *Terebratella dorsata*, which occurs in vast abundance in the same Straits. It will hereafter have to be ascertained whether *Magasella* is really a good sub-genus, or if only a modification of *Terebratella* due to age. *Terebratella* may have undergone modifications in the development of its loop, as is now well known to have been the case with *Waldheimia*.

*Magasella cumingi*, Dav., sp.

*Terebratella cumingi*, Dav., Proc. Zool. Soc., p. 78, pl. xiv. figs. 10–16, May 1852.

*Magasella cumingi*, Gray, Catalogue of the Brachiopoda of the British Museum, p. 99, 1853.

*Terebratula cumingi*, L. Reeve, Conch. Icon., *Terebratula*, pl. viii. fig. 29.

*Magasella cumingi*, Dall, Proc. Phil. Acad. Nat. Sciences, p. 188, July 1873.

Shell ovate, longitudinally oval, very thick, flexuous at the margin. Larger or ventral valve most convex, slightly keeled. Beak large, acuminate produced, very slightly incurved and truncated by a small oval-shaped foramen. Area triangular, concave, laterally sharply defined. Dorsal valve slightly and uniformly convex. Surface of valves smooth, whitish, or feebly tinted with red. In the interior of the dorsal valve the cardinal process is large and massive, a mesial elevated triangular septum arises from under the cardinal process, and by a gentle curve reaches and touches the bottom of the larger valve near to its anterior portion, and from which it descends by an almost perpendicular line to the bottom of the valve. The calcareous ribband-shaped lamellæ forming the loop proceed from the base of the inner socket walls, directing themselves by a gentle curve to the anterior portion of the septum, to which they adhere prior to being reflected so as to form a loop. The brachial or labial processes are of a brilliant red colour. Length 11, width 8 mm.

*Observations.*—In 1852, two examples of this small and interesting species, so remarkable on account of the great thickness of its valves, large projecting beak, and interior peculiarities, were sent to Mr Cuming as having been dredged off New Zealand, and were put into my hands by him for description and illustration. I placed it into the genus *Terebratella*, on account of the shape of its loop, which is doubly attached; subsequently Mr Dall located it into his genus or sub-genus *Magasella*, on account of the shape of its large triangular septum.

*Habitat.*—The exact habitat of the species was not then positively known; and I have no certainty that it was ever dredged off New Zealand. In 1877 I ascertained