

This species, on account of the internal shelf-like process beneath the posterior dorsal margin, is closely related to *Neæra claviculata* of Dall, and may best be recognised by a comparative description. It is less globose than that species, a little narrower, more broadly rostrate behind, the ventral margin being regularly curved, and without a shallow posterior sinuation, and the dorsal outline, behind the beak, scarcely at all incurved. The umbones are placed more forward than in *Neæra claviculata*, and do not curve over so much towards the posterior end. Within I find two differences. In the first place the "clavicle" is longer, and commences at the upper end under the dorsal margin, whilst in Dall's species the inner margin of the clavicle is joined above to the process which receives the internal hinge-cartilage. The second distinction consists in the narrower character of this process, which also is almost parallel with the hinder dorsal edge, whilst in *Neæra claviculata* it juts farther out into the shell.

Length 4 mm., height  $2\frac{2}{3}$ , presumed diameter  $2\frac{1}{3}$ .

*Habitat*.—Station 33, off Bermuda, in 435 fathoms; coral mud.

Only a single left valve is at present known of this species, and that probably not full grown. Were there no other difference except that of form I should have hesitated to have separated it from *Neæra claviculata*; seeing, however, that the clavicle and hinge are also dissimilar, I have no doubt of this being a distinct species. It is unfortunate that no right valve is at hand for examination, for most likely a modification of the peculiar subhooked tooth, met with in the allied form, would occur in this species. I am exceedingly sorry to have to record the complete destruction, through the carelessness of a servant, of this particularly interesting valve since it was returned to me by the artist.

#### SECTION M.

*Neæra fragilissima*, n. sp. (Pl. IX. figs. 1-1b).

Testa magna, tenuissima, ovata, postice breviter rostrata, globosa, haud nitida, alba, inæquilateralis, liris radiantibus tenuibus instructa, incrementique lineis striata. Margo dorsi anticus altus, supra umbones productus, posticus paulo excavatus. Latus anticum superne obliquum, parum arcuatum, ad extremitatem subacute rotundatum. Margo ventralis late curvatus, postice sub rostro leviter sinuatus. Rostrum breve, liris radiantibus obsolete ornatum, superne pone umbones aream angustam impressam exhibens. Umbones postmediani, ad apicem acuti, paulo supra marginem producti. Valva dextra postice vix dentata. Pagina interna parum nitida, radiatim sulcata et striata.

This species is excessively fragile, rather large and inflated, inequilateral, ovate-rostrate, not glossy exteriorly, white, and sculptured with numerous fine radiating