

Dr. Gwyn Jeffreys has shown that this species ranges from the north of England to the Mediterranean and Madeira, and is found fossil in the Coralline Crag and Sub-appenine Tertiaries. A fact in connection with this species which, I believe, has not been previously recorded, is the presence of a small internal ligament. This is especially noticeable in young shells, and is placed obliquely, as in the genus *Semele*, behind the cardinal teeth. Several other species also possess this feature, and among those obtained by the Challenger Expedition may be mentioned *Tellina tenuilirata*, Sowerby, *Tellina diluta*, n. sp., *Tellina fijiensis*, Sowerby, *Tellina casta*, Hanley, *Tellina languida*, n. sp., and *Tellina tenuilamellata*, n. sp. Two other species also have a portion of the ligament internal, but located, not obliquely as in the above species, but immediately beneath the beaks. These are *Tellina semen* of Hanley, and *Tellina semitorta* of Sowerby.

Although these forms differ from others in the genus in this respect, I do not deem it advisable to propose for them at present a new generic or subgeneric section. The gradations in form and general aspect from one genus to another are so slight that I feel convinced that a series of species of Tellinidæ could easily be got together which would clearly represent a gradual transition from group to group, so that it would be impossible to demonstrate where, on the one hand, *Tellina* proper, without any internal ligament, ended, and, on the contrary, where *Semele*, with a conspicuous internal cartilage, commenced. Similar gradations in respect of form, solidity, and dentition are also discoverable, so that it becomes quite a simple matter to graduate the forms of *Abra* into the genus *Semele*.

Tellina (?) *tenuilirata*, Sowerby.

Tellina tenuilirata, Sowerby, Conch. Icon., vol. xvii. fig. 219, *a, b* (non sp. 253).

Tellina tenuilirata, Angas, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1867, p. 919.

Testa parva, alba (interdum rosea), concentrice tenuiter striata, valde inæquilateralis, oblonga, postice acuminata, antice acute rotundata. Margo dorsi anticus elongatus, rectiusculus, vix descendens, posticus longe brevior, valde obliquus, subrectilinearis. Margo ventralis leviter curvatus, postice levissime incurvatus. Umbones parvi, acuti, circiter in $\frac{1}{3}$ longitudinis siti. Dentes cardinales duo inæquales in valva dextra, unicus triangularis in sinistra; laterales elongati, graciles. Ligamentum internum angustissimum, valde obliquum.

This species is moderately thin, white or pink, small, and sculptured with fine concentric lines of growth. It is nearly twice as long as high, very inequilateral, the small acute beaks being located at about one-third of the entire length from the hinder extremity. The anterior portion narrows slightly and is sharply rounded at the end, the posterior side being much more acuminated and somewhat wedge-shaped. The front dorsal margin is elongate, only a little oblique and straightish, the posterior much