

It is compressed, very thin, semitransparent, of an oblique growth, so that the hinder side is larger than the anterior. It is sculptured with very slender concentric liræ, which become mere striæ towards the glossy umbo. This is moderately acute, the converging sides, of which the posterior is considerably the longer, meeting at an angle of about 122 degrees. The ears are very unequal, the hinder one being decidedly larger, denticulate along the top, and separated beneath from the umbonal slope by a narrow deep groove above, parallel with which is an elevated ridge bordering the auricle. It is acutely angled above and cuts in deeply below. The interior is strengthened with sixteen radiating ridges, the two uppermost (of which that on the posterior side is almost obsolete) forming the base of the ears. One or two of the upper ones on each side are very short, and appear thicker than the rest, although in reality they are not. None extend to the beak, so it is probable that very young shells are destitute of liræ.

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

Habitat.—Station 24, off Culebra Island, West Indies, in 390 fathoms; Pteropod ooze.

This minute valve, although without doubt very young, indicates a species of a peculiar oblique growth distinct from any as yet known.

Amussium propinquum, n. sp. (Pl. XXIII. figs. 7-7b).

Testa valde compressa, tenuissima, pellucida, nitida, rotundata; valva dextra lævis, incrementi lineis parum conspicuis sculpta, sinistra radiatim tenuiter lirata. Auriculæ subæquales, lateribus concavis. Pagina interna nitida, liris capilliformibus duodenis instructa.

This species, of which only two odd valves are at present known, is very fragile, pellucid, much flattened, glossy, and about equilateral. It is of a rounded form, perhaps a trifle longer than high, and has rather a long hinge-line. The auricles are small, not quite equal, those of the right valve (the only one perfect at this part) being decidedly concave at the sides, and sculptured with fine lines of growth. The umbones are small, project a trifle beyond the straight hinge-margin, and have the sides very faintly concave and converging to an apical angle of about 125 degrees. The right valve is smooth, exhibiting only very fine lines of increase, which, however, are rather more visible near the outer margin than elsewhere. The left valve, besides these concentric striæ, is sculptured with numerous fine radiating liræ. The interior of the valves is glossy, and strengthened with twelve excessively fine hair-like liræ, which attain neither to the umbones nor to the circumference. The shorter ones beneath the ears are the thickest. The left valve appears radiately striated within, each stria corresponding with an external lira. The ligamental pit is very minute.