

maintain that the former species is absolutely identical with *Crassatella*, hence the disappearance of *Gouldia* from conchology. Dall holds that the latter species is generically distinct from *Circe* "on conchological grounds alone." This I deny, and am of opinion that it possesses at most sectional or subgeneric rank, and may therefore be placed in *Lioconcha* if this separation be thought advisable. To give names to such minor sections, if they be fairly recognisable, is I think allowable, and to a certain extent useful in those genera which contain a large number of species, but in small groups this practice should not be encouraged.

Crassatella torresi, n. sp. (Pl. XVI. figs. 2-2a).

Testa parva, valde compressa, tenuis, alba, trigona, costis concentricis paucis postice incrassatis et productis instructa. Margines dorsi valde declives, fere æquales, antico levissime concavo, postico vix convexo; margo ventralis maxime curvatus. Umbones parvi acuti, mediani. Dens cardinalis unicus in valva dextra, duo in sinistra; laterales utrinque perremoti. Ligamentum angustum, in sulco marginali locatum, partim internum, in fossa parva infra apices positum.

This little species is very compressed, equilateral, quadrant-shaped, thin, semi-transparent, white, and ornamented with about a dozen rather remote concentric ridges. They are thickened at their posterior extremities and a trifle prolonged into scale-like projections, forming a crest along the dorsal margin. Between the costæ very fine radiating striæ are discernible under the microscope. The dorsal margins are of equal length, and form almost a right angle at the apex. The anterior is the least concave, and the posterior the slightest excurved. There is a single central longish cardinal tooth in the right valve, which fits in between two equally long ones (of which the posterior is rather the larger) in the left, and the former valve exhibits a distinct very remote lateral on each side, separated from the outer margin by a conspicuous furrow which receives the prominent lateral margins of the other valve. The slender ligament is situated in a narrow posterior marginal groove, and a small portion of it is internal and located in a very small pit beneath the beaks and just posterior to the cardinal teeth. The interior of the valves is smooth and glossy, and owing to their transparency exhibits the external ribbing. The outer margin is simple, smooth, and non-crenate. The muscular scars and pallial line are not clearly definite.

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

Habitat.—Station 188, south of New Guinea, in 28 fathoms green mud.

The single minute shell here characterised may not be, and probably is not, adult, but is sufficiently distinct and peculiar to merit description.