Loligo, Lamarck.1

Loligo edulis, Hoyle (Pl. XXIII.).

1885. Loligo edulis, Hoyle, Diagnoses II., p. 186. 1885. ,, Hoyle, Prelim. Rep. II., p. 289.

Habitat.—Yokohama, Japan. Purchased in the market. One specimen, 3.

The Body is moderately stout, being about three times as long as broad, cylindrical in its anterior third, and tapering gradually to a bluntish point. The fin occupies a little more than half the length of the body; it is rhomboidal, not quite so broad as long, and broadest anteriorly to the middle; the lateral angles are rounded. The mantle-margin has a slight projection in the dorsal median line and a broad shallow sinuate excavation ventrally. The siphon is of moderate length and bluntly pointed.

The Head has prominent rounded eyes, and the usual auricular crest and preocular pore.

The Arms are unequal, the order of length being 3, 4, 2, 1, and about half as long as the body. The first are very slender and bear a distinct keel on the dorsal aspect; the second are thicker and triangular, and have a broad keel almost expanding into a web on the lateral aspect; the third are the stoutest, flattened from above downwards, and distinctly keeled externally; the fourth are intermediate between the third and second, triangular, and with a broadish web extending the whole way up the dorso-lateral aspect. They all have a web up each side of the inner face. The suckers (figs. 3, 4) are in two series, very oblique, and with slender conical peduncles, their size varying with that of the arms on which they are situated; the horny ring bears about eight long square-cut teeth on its distal margin. The left ventral arm as usual is hectocotylised, and bears proximally ten rows of suckers, then a minute sucker with an exaggerated peduncle, and beyond this two series of long conical papillæ (fig. 5). The buccal membrane has the usual seven angles produced into long lappets, each of which bears about eight suckers in two rows; the outer lip is moderately thick, the inner much thicker and marked with deep radial grooves.

The Tentacles are about as long as the body, with flattened stems; about one-third their length is occupied by the club (fig. 6), which is only slightly expanded, has a protective membrane on either side, but a dorsal web is present only at the extremity. The central suckers (fig. 7) are about sixteen in number and about one-third larger than the lateral; the proximal are about ten, the distal are closely packed in four series. The

Gwyn Jeffreys (Brit. Conch., vol. v. p. 130) gives "Schneider" as the authority for this genus, but without any reference or even date. The only paper by that author bearing in any way upon the subject, which I have been able to find, is one entitled Bemerkungen über die Gattung der Dintenfische (Schrift. Gesellsch. naturf. Freunde Berlin, Bd. xi. pp. 33-50, 1794). In it this passage occurs (p. 46), "Ich finde auch damit eine Zeichnung ganz übereinstimmig, welche ich von dem Lungenherze des Kalamers (Loligo) entworfen habe." This does not, however, seem to be of the nature of a definition, and so I have followed the majority of writers in attributing the creation of the genus to Lamarck.