

unaccompanied by any figure, does not, however, admit of certain decision on this point.

The fact that this species has only been found in the deep-sea deposits, and that over a wide area, but has never been collected alive at the surface, raises the question whether it be not really extinct. The remains of fossil Elasmobranchs and Cetaceans found at the bottom of modern seas make this hypothesis more plausible.

Although neither the animal nor the operculum of *Limacina triacantha* have been as yet observed, there cannot be any doubt that the form in question is a Pteropod. It is indeed difficult to decide, in the absence of the animal, that an empty shell, twisted in a left-handed spiral, really belongs to the Thecosomatous Pteropods and the group Limacinidæ, and not to some Gastropodous group, but in the present case there can hardly be any hesitation, as is shown by the following characters:—

1. The constancy of the left-handed spiral of the shell, which is observed in all the specimens, shows that we have not to deal with an abnormal left-handed example of a right-handed Gastropod.

2. The great breadth of the transverse diameter is not what is normally found in left-handed Gastropods, which usually exhibit an elongated spiral.

3. The thinness of the test is also suggestive.

4. The predominance of Thecosomatous Pteropod shells in the sediments from which the present species was dredged is in itself an argument.

5. The numerous resemblances between the species and *Limacina inflata* suggest a close affinity.

### 3. *Limacina helicina* (Phipps).

1774. *Clio helicina*, Phipps, A voyage towards the North Pole, p. 195.

1774. *Clione helicina*, Pallas, Spicilegia zoologica, fasc. x. p. 38.

1780. *Argonauta arctica*, Fabricius, Fauna grœnlandica, p. 386.

1819. *Limacina helicalis*, Lamarck, Histoire naturelle des animaux sans vertèbres, t. vi. p. 291.

1824. *Spiratella limacina*, de Blainville, Dict. d. Sci. Nat., t. xxxii. p. 284.

1832. *Spiratella arctica*, Deshayes, Encyclopédie méthodique, Vers, t. iii. p. 138.

1841. *Limacina arctica*, Möller, Bemaerkninger til slægten *Limacina*, Krøyer, Nat. Hist. Tidsskr., I Raekke, Bd. iii. p. 488.

1852. *Limacina helicina*, Souleyet, Histoire naturelle des Mollusques Ptéropodes, p. 61.

1872. *Limacina pacifica*, Dall, Description of sixty new forms of Molluscs from the West Coasts of North America and the North Pacific Ocean, Amer. Journ. of Conch., vol. vii. p. 138.

For description and figures, I refer to Sars, *Mollusca regionis arcticæ Norvegiæ* (1878), p. 328, pl. 29, fig. 1.

*Habitat*.—The area of distribution is similar to that of *Clione limacina*.—Davis Strait; Hudson Strait; Greenland; Iceland; Jan Meyen Island; Southern Norway; White Sea (Wagner); Spitzbergen; Nova Zembla; Sea of Okhotsk; North Pacific: Monterey,