

elongated, and the striæ nearly twice as numerous, being about thirty to forty in the European, and fifty to sixty in the American specimens. No account of the internal bony process is given in any description except that by Mr Couthouy. These would afford the best possible specific character were it not that they are usually more or less broken. But I have been relieved from all further speculation by the receipt of specimens from Dr Lovén which settle the identity of our species with the European *caput-serpentis*." Mr W. H. Binney seems to be of a different opinion, for he adds, after Gould's observations above recorded: "I have retained the above remarks from the former edition, because our shell is so generally still regarded as identical with the European species, but further examination of numerous specimens has led me to coincide with Dr Stimpson, who has dredged extensively both in British and American seas, and in his opinion, the species differs from European *Ter. caput-serpentis* sufficiently both in shell and animal."

G. B. Sowerby in p. 344 (1846) of his *Thesaurus Conchyliorum* observes that *Ter. septentrionalis* is distinguished from *Ter. caput-serpentis* by its much finer radiating striæ, its larger and less oblique foramen, and by its rather more extended and somewhat differently formed internal appendages. Mr Lovell Reeve in his *Monograph of Terebratula*, *Conch. Icon.*, 1861, places *Ter. septentrionalis* as a synonym of *Ter. caput-serpentis*, stating that, "*Ter. caput-serpentis* ranges throughout the European seas from the Arctic to the Mediterranean, mostly at considerable depths, and it appears abundantly in a more finely-striated state in the northern seas of the United States. The North American form is given as a distinct species in the Museum Catalogue with Couthouy's name *Ter. septentrionalis*, but is untenable, as Dr Gould himself admits in his Report on the Invertebrata of Massachusetts. Dr Gwyn Jeffreys, in his valuable *British Conchology*, considers *Ter. septentrionalis* as a local variety of *Ter. caput-serpentis*, and adds that it has a thinner shell, finer ribs, and a white colour, and that he has compared more than a hundred specimens of both forms. Mr Dall in his *Revision of Recent Species of Brachiopoda*, in the *Proc. Phil. Acad. Nat. Sciences* for July 1873, considers *Ter. caput-serpentis* and *Ter. septentrionalis* as distinct species, but in a letter to me, dated November 1877, he adds: "I consider *Ter. septentrionalis* as merely a geographical race of *Ter. caput-serpentis*, but I think *Ter. unguiculus* is distinct. The difference between the last and the Atlantic form is chiefly in the loop which remains in *Ter. unguiculus* long open, and is much larger and broader proportionately to the shell than in *Ter. caput-serpentis*." I have likewise, thanks to the Challenger Expedition dredgings and to Professor Verril, been enabled to compare a very large number of specimens at all ages of the species and its variety, and quite concur with the prevailing opinion that there exists very little difference between the two, but still I think sufficient to warrant us in retaining the varietal designation of *septentrionalis*. In addition to the generally finer striation, the shell is more regularly oval and rounded in front than in the *Ter. caput-serpentis*, although