

yellow, sometimes slightly yellowish-red, smooth or ribbed. Dorsal valve, with a mesial depression or sinus commencing generally at about half the length of the valve, and extending to the front. Ventral valve rather deeper than the dorsal one, with a mesial fold corresponding to the sinus in the opposite valve. Beak produced, slightly incurved and truncated by a rather large circular foramen, more or less separated from the hinge-line by a deltidium in two pieces; beak-ridges sharply defined, leaving a flattened space between them and the hinge-line. In the interior of the dorsal valve the loop is long and doubly attached, first to the hinge-plate, again by horizontal laminae, given off by the principal branches of the loop, to a slightly elevated mesial septum. Length 25, width 26, depth 11 mm.

*Habitat.*—Three examples were dredged by the Challenger, off Royal Sound, Kerguelen, on the 17th January 1874, lat. 49° 40' S., long. 70° 20' E. Depth, from 20 to 30 fathoms. It is a very common species near the coast of Chili and southward to the Straits of Magellan, in depths of from 25 to 90 fathoms. Mr Cuming got it near Valparaiso. A. D'Orbigny states, in his *Voyage dans l'Amerique Meridionale*, that he obtained it also at Coquimbo at rather great depths. Some specimens have attained to double the size of the Challenger specimens above recorded.

*Observations.*—This species varies considerably from the presence or absence of radiating ribs, and this peculiarity is common to many recent and fossil species of Brachiopoda. In 1867 Commodore Acton dredged a very great number of specimens in the Straits of Magellan, which he kindly presented to me. These show every modification in shape, from the smooth shell to those more or less distinctly ribbed. Mr Broderip observes that the radiating striæ almost disappear in the older individuals. When quite young the dorsal valve possesses a high *Magasella*-shaped septum and loop. The shell has received several names, and some difference in opinion has arisen as to the one that should be retained. Mr L. Reeve observes that, "three years before Gmelin gave the name of *Anomia dorsata* to this species, it was fully described and figured by Chemnitz with the name of *magellanica*, which had already been given to it in French by Davila, Favart, and D'Herbigny." Mr Dall is, however, of opinion that, "as Chemnitz was not a binominal writer, his name cannot be retained." The anatomy of this species has been well described by Professor Owen in vol. i. of the *Transactions of the Zoological Society*. The three dead and separated valves brought back by the Challenger Expedition were nearly smooth, or with the radiating ribs but very faintly indicated, and seem to partake more of the aspect of the variety *sowerbyi* of King, than of the generality of specimens of *Terebratula dorsata*.