

Cistella cistellula there is but one septum, while in *Argiope decollata* there are from three to five.

Rhynchonella, Fisher.

Rhynchonella nigricans, var. *pixydata*, R. B. Watson¹ (Pl. IV. fig. 14).

Terebratula nigricans, Sow., Proc. Zool. Soc., p. 91, 1846, and Thesaurus Conchyl., p. 342, pl. lxxi. figs. 81, 82.

Rhynchonella nigricans, Dav., Proc. Zool. Soc., pl. xiv. figs. 30, 31, 1852.

Hemithyris nigricans, Dall, Catalogue of the Recent Species of the Class Brachiopoda, Proc. Phil. Acad. Nat. Sciences, p. 196, 1873.

Var. *pixydata*.—Shell transversely oval, widest anteriorly, tapering posteriorly, wider than long. Dorsal valve uniformly convex to about half its length, when a broad mesial fold, scarcely raised above the general convexity of the valve, occupies the anterior middle of the valve. Ventral valve rather less deep and convex than the opposite one, with a broad, well-defined mesial sinus, commencing at a short distance from the extremity of the beak, and extending to the front. Beak rather small, acute, and incurved; foramen incomplete, situated under its pointed extremity, laterally margined by narrow deltidial plates; surface of both valves ornamented by about forty to forty-six small, angular radiating ribs, closely intersected by equidistant squamose concentric ridges of growth, giving an imbricated appearance to the surface. Colour yellowish-white, sometimes brownish at the beaks. Length 18, width 20, depth 30 mm.

Habitat.—Six examples were dredged by the Challenger Expedition, south of Kerguelen Island, on February 2, 1874, associated with numerous specimens of *Waldheimia kerguelensis*, at Station 150, lat. 50° 4' S., long. 71° 22' E. Depth, 150 fathoms. Bottom temperature, 1°·8 C. Sea bottom, rock.

The typical form of the species has been often dredged in about 19 fathoms at Foveaux Straits, five miles off Ruapuke Island, New Zealand. Sea bottom, coral and rock.

Observations.—Nearly all the specimens from Foveaux Straits, New Zealand, were of a blue, black, or brownish colour, while the six examples dredged by the Challenger Expedition from near Kerguelen Island, were of a light, yellowish-white colour. One, however, showed at the beaks the brown tint of the New Zealand type. The New Zealand shell is also generally more transverse, and comparatively less convex than is the variety from near Kerguelen. The ribs in the latter are likewise more numerous, and smaller. These differences, no doubt, led the Rev. R. Boog Watson to distinguish it as a distinct species under the MS. name of *pixydata*, from πvξ, as he thought it like a box.

¹ By mistake in my Extract of Report on the Brachiopoda dredged by H.M.S. Challenger, read before the Royal Society on May 8, 1878, this variety was referred to Willemöes-Suhm, but Mr Watson subsequently informed me that it was an MS. name of his own.