

my former paper, in all particulars except the foregoing. The specimens are nearly all females with ova, and are of much larger size than the two specimens of *N. styligerum*.

XIV.—*Description of a new Species of Solenella from South Patagonia.* By EDGAR A. SMITH, F.Z.S.

THE following species was collected by Dr. Robert O. Cunningham, the naturalist, during the cruise of H.M.S. 'Nassau,' under the command of Captain R. C. Mayne, R.N., who was sent to survey the Straits of Magellan in 1866. He dredged it at the Otter Islands, which are situated in a channel which branches northward from the Straits to the west of King William IV.'s Land and east of Queen Adelaide's archipelago. In his book entitled the 'Natural History of the Straits of Magellan,' p. 448, this species is mentioned as a *Yoldia*; but this no doubt arose from the circumstance that the specimens were only cursorily examined, for of course the presence of the external ligament at once distinguishes them from that genus. All the specimens, collected and excellently preserved by Dr. Cunningham, have been presented to the British Museum by the Admiralty.

Solenella magellanica, sp. nov.

Testa subelliptica, postice acuminata, medioeriter ventricosa, leviter inæquilateralis, epidermide politissima, flavicante seu olivaceo-flava amicta, intus alba, porcellana, incrementi lineis concentricis parum rugosis et striis ab umbonibus radiantibus tenuibus antice (interdum utrinque) sculpta; margo dorsalis utrinque declivis, antice curvatus, postice prope umbones aliquanto excavatus, deinde rectiusculus; ventralis fere regulariter, sed parum, arcuatus; latus anticum brevius subacuminate rotundatum, posticum subbrevisiter rostratum, superne leviter excavatum; ligamentum olivaceo-nigrum, subelongatum; dentes antici 10, postici circiter 25; pallii impressio lata profunda.

Diam. longit. 19 mill., diam. transversa 35, crass. 11.

In one very old and much thickened specimen the epidermis is of an olive colour, but in all the others it is yellowish. From the umbones to the end of the acuminate end there runs a faint keel, at a little distance from the dorsal margin, and between it and the margin the valves are slightly excavated. The epidermis, as is usual in species of *Solenella*, is reflexed slightly within the shell. The interior displays no trace of iridescence, but is thickened with a white porcellaneous deposit; and it is curious that the two most adult specimens

have small pearls of this texture adhering to the centre of each valve.

As a guide to the form of this species, I may mention that the figure of *Yoldia Woodwardi* in the 'Thesaurus Conchyliorum,' vol. iii. pl. 226. f. 22, gives a very fair idea of it, except that the umbo is situated too near the acuminate end.

XV.—On the Embryogeny of *Lamellaria perspicua*.

By M. A. GIARD*.

THE recent researches on the embryogeny of the Pectinibranchiate Gasteropods relate to a very small number of types—*Paludina vivipara* (Leydig), *Calyptræa sinensis* (Stefanoff and Salensky), and *Purpura lapillus* (Selenka). It was not, therefore, useless to undertake the study of the development of a sufficiently abnormal group, that of the Sigaretidæ.

Lamellaria perspicua lays its eggs at Wimereux during the months of February and March. This mollusk hollows out its nest in the colonies of the compound Ascidia, from which it derives its nourishment (*Leptoclinum maculosum* and *Polyclinum succineum*). The nest has been seen and described by Henedy and Peach. I will only add that the transparent operculum, which closes it, presents circular and concentric striæ, indicating that the female turns on herself during oviposition, as also do a large number of nudibranchiate mollusks. Each capsule contains, besides the normal eggs, a certain number of rudimentary eggs, which serve at a later period for the nourishment of the embryo. The ovarian egg presents a vitelline membrane; the deposited egg is quite destitute of it. Its contents are formed chiefly of fatty globules, which do not allow one to see the germinal vesicle. Just as segmentation is about to commence, a spot of a dull white colour appears at the surface of the egg, to disappear soon after. The egress of the polar corpuscles could not be observed.

The egg separates into two parts, of which the largest divides in its turn into two and then into three. We have thus four spheres—namely, a large one (the still undivided primitive sphere) and three small ones. These four spheres are not arranged in a cross, but in a tetrahedron, like four cannonballs forming a pile. In the portion situated between the points of contact of the four spheres, each of them gives birth

* Translated by W. S. Dallas, F.L.S., from the 'Comptes Rendus,' 22nd March, 1875, p. 736.



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