

DESCRIPTIONS OF SOME NEW OR NOTEWORTHY  
SHELLS IN THE AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM.

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(Plates xl.-xlv.)

NUCULA SUPERBA, *Hedley*.

(Plate xl., figs. 1, 2).

*Nucula superba*, Hedley, Austr. Mus. Mem. iv., 1902, p. 292.

In treating of *Nucula obliqua*, Lamarck, I suggested that whereas the type of that species had a smooth inner margin to the valve and was a native of Tasmania, the name had been in error applied to a much larger shell from tropical Queensland with an inner margin microscopically crenulated and with long rake-like teeth. For this Queensland form I proposed the name of *Nucula superba*.

The size and habitat of *Nucula lorongi*, Adams and Angas<sup>1</sup>, correspond to that of *N. superba*, but their phrase "margine intus simplice," is inconsistent. The crenulation of the inner margin of *N. superba* is only visible on good specimens and under a lens. But had it been overlooked by the authors, Mr. E. A. Smith would have referred to *N. lorongi* in discussing the large Queensland *Nucula*<sup>2</sup>.

*Hab.*—The example figured is 19 mm. long, 15 mm. high, the single valve 4 mm. deep; it was taken by Mr. A. U. Henn in 10½ fathoms near Bow Reef off Cape Sidmouth, North Queensland. I have obtained the species in 15 fathoms off the Palm Islands, in 5-10 fathoms Hope Islands, and in 4-14 fathoms Albany Passage, Queensland.

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<sup>1</sup> Adams and Angas—Proc. Zool. Soc., 1863 (1864), p. 427; Cooke—Cambridge Natural History, Mollusca, 1895, p. 273, fig. 189A.

<sup>2</sup> Smith—Chall. Rep., Zool., xiii., 1885, p. 225.