

rounded below. Ventral margin broadly rounded in front of the midlength and straighter behind it; superior border sloping rapidly, obliquely, and somewhat concavely downward in front of the beaks, and more gradually and convexly so behind them; umbones rather narrow and moderately prominent; beaks curved inward and forward, placed in advance of the midlength.

Surface marked with numerous concentric lines of growth; test thick and apparently not nacreous.

Hinge dentition and muscular impressions unknown.

Approximate dimensions of the specimen described and figured, which has both valves preserved though slightly displaced: maximum length, 72 mm.; height, 64 mm.; greatest thickness or convexity of the two valves when closed, about 41 mm.

Judging by its external characters and by analogy with other fossil and recent species, this specimen would seem to be referable to *Cyrena* rather than to *Corbicula*. If it is a true *Cyrena*, it is the first species of that genus that has been recognized in Canada. But according to Mr. Meek, "it is quite probable that a critical study of the numerous extinct species that have been described under the general name *Cyrena*, by those who are not very particular in regard to generic distinctions, would bring to light sufficient reasons for the separation from that genus and *Corbicula*, of several groups, either holding the rank of distinct genera or subgenera."* And, in reference to *Cyrena*, Mr. Meek had previously remarked that "Mr. Prime has called attention to the fact that, in the existing American species of this genus and *Corbicula*, the pallial line is always distinctly sinuous, the sinus being comparatively deep and sharply angular; while in foreign species it is but slightly, or sometimes not at all, sinuous." "So far as I have had an opportunity to determine," Mr. Meek adds, "all of our far-western fossil species, excepting *C. Dakotensis*, have a more or less distinctly sinuous pallial line; but, in no instance have I seen the sinus so deep and sharply angular in the latter, as represented by Mr. Prime in some of the recent species."† In a future re-

* Report of the U. S. Geological Survey of the Territories, vol. IX, p. 160.

† *Idem*, p. 157.