

HABITS. This is a well-marked shell and not like any other yet found on our coast. It is a bivalve, each valve of which is somewhat like that of the Clam. Across the middle runs a furrow, in front of which the lines of growth rise in regular teeth, which are entirely wanting behind that line. The shell gapes very widely open both before and behind, and the dorsal margin in front of the furrow is folded over outwards. It does not exceed four inches in length in our waters, but

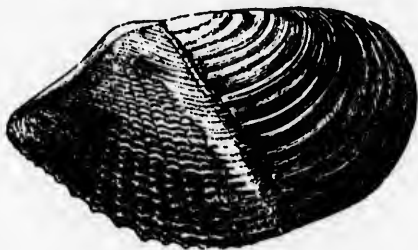


FIG. 21.—*Zirphæa crispata*. Natural Size.

grows much larger to the south and on the west coast. It is a burrowing Mollusc, and lives in hard clay, soft stone or even submerged wood.

ECONOMICS. On the coast of California this species is extensively eaten. It is, however, much larger than with us, and is regularly exposed in the markets under the name of "Date-fish." It is not abundant enough in Acadia to be of any value. It appears to do no injury in its burrowing, to any of man's works.

27. ***Teredo navalis* Linnæus.**

[*Teredo*, a borer; *navalis*, infesting ships.]

Ship-worm.

DISTRIBUTION. (a) *General*.—In submerged timber. Gulf of Mexico to Vineyard Sound. Gulf of St. Lawrence, abundant. [Massachusetts Bay to Chedabucto Bay, much less abundant]. Sweden and Great Britain to Sicily; Algeria and the Black Sea.

(b) *In Acadia*.—St. John, Shediac, Pictou, *Whiteaves*. Northumberland Straits, St. George's Bay, Strait of Canso,