

very oblique, and also very little excurved. The ventral outline is very gently arcuate, upcurving at both ends, forming rounded extremities. When the shell is viewed with the posterior end towards the eye the lower edges of the valves are seen to be slightly tortuous near that part, whence the species has derived its name. The surface of the valves is finely concentrically striated, the sculpture at the hinder part being somewhat finer than in *Tellina semen* of Hanley. The ligament is short, yellow, and prominent. The anterior lateral teeth and the plate supporting the ligament are tinged with pale red, the corresponding parts in *Tellina semen* being white. The pallial sinus is large, deep, rounded at the end, and reaches almost to the front muscular scar.

In Sowerby's figure 221, *a*, the anterior dorsal slope and the ventral outline are rather too convex, so that the form appears somewhat too short.

The types of this species, liberally presented to the national collection by Mr. G. F. Angas, were dredged in Watson's Bay, South Wales.

Family DONACIDÆ.

Donax, Linné.

Donax nitidus, Deshayes.

Donax nitida, Deshayes, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1854, p. 350.

Donax nitida, Reeve, Conch. Icon., vol. viii. fig. 34.

Donax nitidus, Römer, Conch.-Cab., ed. 2, p. 51 (*non Donax nitidus*, Sowerby, Thesaurus, vol. iii. p. 314, pl. cclxxxii. fig. 75).

Habitat.—Port Jackson, Sydney, in 6 to 15 fathoms, and Station 187, near Cape York, North Australia, in 6 fathoms.

This species was originally described from specimens said to have been collected at Moreton Bay. It is well characterised by its slender form, its smooth glossy surface, and the conspicuous coarse arcuate sulci and intermediate ridges down the posterior end.

These do not extend quite to the dorsal margin, thus leaving a smooth lanceolate area, which does not, however, extend to the posterior extremity of the shell. Although the valves appear smooth and glossy to the naked eye, they nevertheless are ornamented with excessively fine radiating white substriæ, such as obtain in many species of the genus. The colour of this species is white, varied with two short livid brown rays and a brownish stain upon the sulcated end of the valves. These markings are also faintly visible within the valves, which are otherwise white inside and finely denticulated along the faintly curved ventral margin. M. Deshayes described this species as totally white, with the exception of a pale violet flesh-coloured lunule. This is not, however, correct, either as regards the types in the Cumingian collection or the Challenger specimens, all of which exhibit the rays above mentioned.