

parent snail (*Rissoa*), which may often be found in enormous quantities; often also there are great numbers of another snail (*Akera bullata*), and in the mud, even where there is no *zostera* vegetation, we frequently find species of *Philine*. A species of attached ascidian (*Ciona intestinalis*, see Fig. 332), which, however, is also found on laminaria, especially when growing in sheltered or rather deep places, is one of the most prominent animal forms of the eelgrass. Hydroids and synascidians are also occasionally met with. Swimming amongst the blades of the eelgrass we further find various crustaceans, of which two species of prawns (*Pandalus annulicornis* and *Palaemon*) are the most noticeable. They are not limited to the eelgrass, however, but occur also in places where *zostera* does not grow. The list of forms to be found here is far from exhausted, for I have mentioned only some of the chief ones. The *zostera* belt is not of so much importance along the Atlantic and North Sea coasts of Scandinavia, as it covers a very limited area in comparison with the other subdivisions of the littoral zone, and it is negligible indeed, when compared with the immense tracts in the Kattegat which are literally overgrown with this plant.

Such in general is a picture of the fauna to be found in the algæ and *zostera* vegetation of the strand-belt; though it must be understood that when speaking of this fauna as associated with the plants I do not imply that these animal-forms can exist only upon them. This is only exceptionally the case. The relationship between them depends on the fact that, as a rule, the algæ afford an excellent foundation for the attached forms, which find favourable conditions of nourishment wherever the algæ flourish. For we must remember that these attached forms are obliged to obtain their nourishment from such organisms as chance to come within their reach, and since currents and waves furnish the necessary assistance, we



FIG. 332.  
*Ciona intestinalis*, L.  
(After Alder and Hancock.)