It agrees with the species described in the previous chapter in all its leading characters, although certain marked differences must lead to a slight modification of the characters of the genus as formerly defined. In Willemoesia leptodactyla all the five pairs of ambulatory legs bear chelæ, while it is a character of the typical Astacidæ that chelæ are present on three pairs only. In the new species there are chelæ on four pairs of the ambulatory legs, the fifth pair ending in simple curved claws. The two species agree with one another, and with Astacus, in possessing a lamellar appendage at the base of the outer antennæ, and along with this they have the flattened carapace of Palinurus. These characters have not been hitherto observed in combination in any recent form, and their so occurring seems to be a more valuable generic character than the variable one of the form of the limbs. The character of the genus will now stand thus:

Willemoesia, n. g. — Cephalo-thorax flattened, with a compressed, free, lateral margin. A lamellar appendage at the base of each of the outer antennæ. At least four pairs of ambulatory legs bear chelæ. No trace of eyes or of eye-stalks.

W. leptodactyla, v. W.-S.—All the ambulatory feet bearing chelæ.

W. crucifer, v. W.-S.—Four pairs of the ambulatory feet bearing chelæ.

The single example dredged of Willemoesia crucifer (Fig. 59) is a male. The total length is 42 mm. (cephalo-thorax 19 mm., and abdomen 23 mm.), and the extreme width of the cephalo-thorax 18 mm. The carapace is flattened and compressed laterally, and the flattened lateral portions are curved upward like wings. The lateral margins are denticulated, and divided by two deeper incisions into three parts, the first bordered by seven, the second by four, and the third by seventeen teeth. The surface of the carapace is granulated, not spiny, as in W. leptodactyla. Two ridges crossing one another in the middle