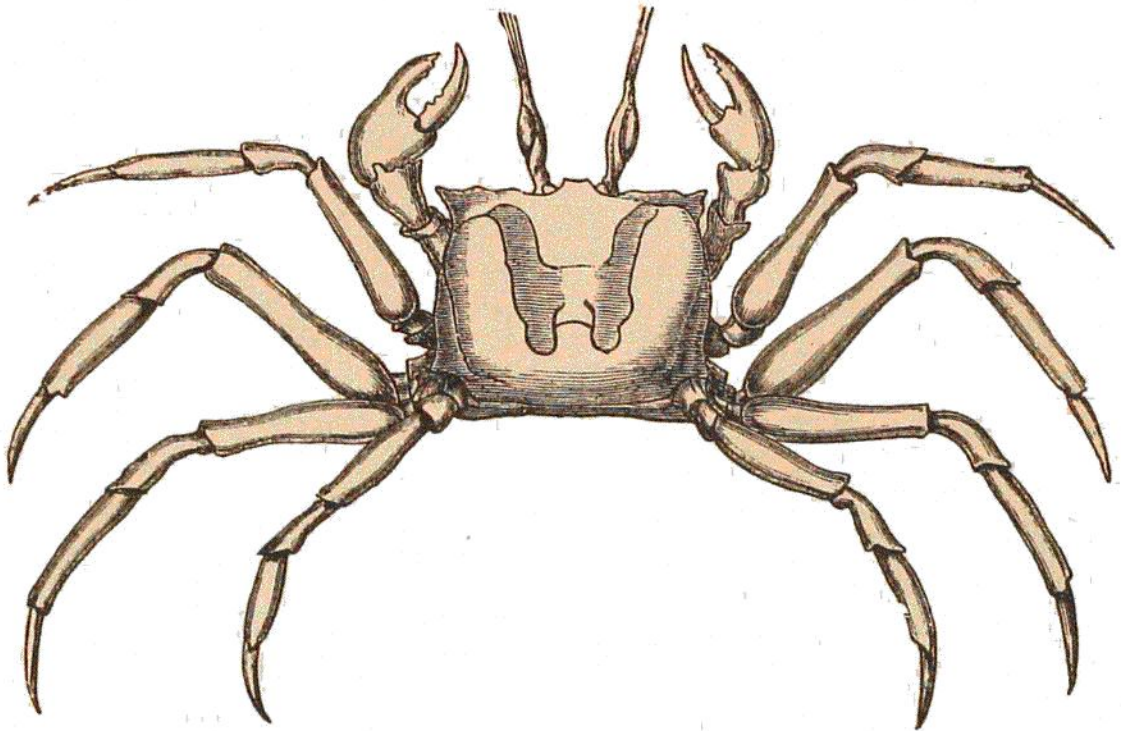


a heavy rolling surf was breaking, I encountered a Sand-crab (*Ocyroda ippeus*), which was walking about, and got between it and its hole in the dry sand above the beach. The crab was a large one, at least three inches in breadth of its carapace. In this species of crab, the eyestalks are very long. The eyes are on the side of the stalks, which are longer than eyes, and projecting above them are terminated by a tuft of hairs. When the animal is on the alert, these long eyestalks are erected and stand up vertically side by side far above the level of the animal's back.

With its curious long column-like eyes erect the crab bolted down towards the surf as the only escape, and as it saw a wave



OCYRODA IPPEUS.
(About half natural size.)

rushing up the shelving shore dug itself tight into the sand, and held on to prevent the undertow from carrying it down into the sea. As soon as the wave had retreated, it made off full speed along the shore. I gave chase, and whenever a wave approached, the crab repeated the manœuvre. I once touched it with my hand whilst it was buried and blinded by the sandy water, but the surf compelled me to retreat, and I could not snatch hold of it for fear of its powerful claws. At last I chased it, hard pressed, into the surf in a hurry, and being unable to get proper hold in time it was washed down into the sea.

The crab evidently dreaded going into the sea. These