

# DESCRIPTIONS OF THE GENERA AND SPECIES.

---

## BRACHYURA.

- Canori Brachyuri**, Lamarck (pt.), Syst. des Anim. sans Vert., p. 148, 1801.  
**Brachyures**, Milne Edwards, Hist. Nat. Crust., i. p. 247 (1834).  
**Brachyura**, Leach (pt.), Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond., vol. xi. p. 307, 1815.  
,, Latreille (pt.), Fam. Nat. du Règne Anim., p. 267, 1825.  
,, Dana, U. S. Expl. Exped., vol. xiii. Crust. 1, p. 58, 1852.  
,, Miers, Cat. New Zeal. Crust., p. 1, 1876.  
,, Claus (pt.), Grundzüge der Zoologie, ed. 4, vol. i. p. 632, 1880.  
,, Haswell, Cat. Australian Stalk and Sessile-Eyed Crust., p. 1, 1882.

The cervical and thoracic regions of the body are covered by the carapace, which is greatly developed. The antennular fossettes and orbits are usually well defined. The buccal cavity is distinctly defined in front. The sternum is never linear, the vulvæ are situated upon the sternum. The post-abdomen, in the male, is short; inflexed beneath the cephalothorax, and usually closely applied to it. The flagella of the antennules and antennæ are usually short or rudimentary. The exterior maxillipedes are operculiform and usually completely close the buccal cavity. The anterior legs are developed as perfectly chelate limbs (chelipedes). The ambulatory legs (*i.e.*, those of the second to the fifth pairs) are never perfectly chelate; but rarely, in those forms which establish the passage to the Anomura (*e.g.*, the Dorippidæ) are feeble and imperfectly prehensile.

The Brachyura, or short-tailed, *i.e.*, true crabs, are, as stated in the introductory portion of this Report, here limited in the sense long ago indicated by Profs. H. Milne Edwards and J. D. Dana; who may perhaps still be regarded as the leading authorities on the systematic classification of the Crustacea; and are subdivided into the four secondary divisions or subtribes, Oxyrhyncha, Cyclometopa, Catometopa, and Oxystomata.

The recent species, as is well known, are extremely numerous, for the most part marine, and inhabitants of the shores or shallower waters of the temperate, subtropical, or tropical regions of the globe; but few species occurring in the Arctic or Antarctic circumpolar areas of distribution. Others (Geocarcinidæ, Thelphusidæ) are terrestrial or fluviatile, and a few (Pinnotheridæ) inhabit the shells, &c., of animals of other groups. Until recently, little was known of the bathymetrical distribution of these animals, but the Challenger and other recent expeditions have shown that species, especially of the somewhat aberrant family Dorippidæ, may occur in the abysses of the ocean to a depth exceeding 1500 fathoms.