

Libinia, Leach.

Libinia, Leach, Zool. Miscell., vol. ii. p. 129, 1815.

„ Milne Edwards, Hist. Nat. Crust., vol. i. p. 298, 1834.

„ Miers, Journ. Linn. Soc. Lond. (Zool.), vol. xiv. p. 662, 1879.

The carapace is convex, broadly pyriform, or nearly orbiculate, and its dorsal surface is covered with numerous tubercles, which are sometimes developed as spines; the præocular tooth or spine is usually distinct. The rostrum is well developed (sometimes rather small), emarginate or bifid at the apex, and so terminating in two teeth or spines. The orbits are small, nearly circular, and well defined, with sometimes an open fissure or hiatus in the superior and inferior margins. The post-abdomen (in the male) is distinctly seven-jointed. The eyes are small and completely retractile. The basal antennal joint is moderately enlarged, and is armed with a tooth or spine at the antero-external angle, behind which, on the exterior margin, is usually another tooth. The flagellum is not concealed by the rostrum. The merus of the exterior maxillipedes is truncated (not toothed) at the distal extremity, and its antero-internal angle is emarginate. The chelipedes (in the adult males) are well developed; palm elongated, subcylindrical or compressed, but not enlarged; fingers minutely and evenly denticulated on the inner margins, with a small intermarginal hiatus at base. The ambulatory legs are well developed, sometimes elongated, with the joints subcylindrical, unarmed; dactyli nearly straight.

This genus is closely allied on the one hand to *Doclea* and on the other to *Libidoclea*, Milne Edwards and Lucas. I have proposed elsewhere¹ to restrict the latter genus to the single species *Libidoclea granaria*, Milne Edwards and Lucas, characterised by having the merus-joint of the exterior maxillipedes armed with a strong tooth on its distal margin, a character never observed in any species either of *Libinia* or *Doclea*.

The following species are referable to the genus *Libinia* as characterised above:—

1. Fissures of the upper and lower orbital margins very narrow or closed; basal antennal joint with a tubercle or very short spine at its antero-external angle.

Libinia emarginata, Leach (= *Libinia canaliculata*, Say, and *Libinia affinis*, Randall). East Coast of United States; West Indies; West Coast of North America.

Libinia dubia, Milne Edwards (= *Libinia distincta*, Guér.-Ménév. and B. Capello; *Libinia inflata*, Streets, var. ?). East Coast of United States; West Indies; West Coast of Africa.

Libinia rhomboidea, Streets; "East Indies." (The locality is so given by Streets whose description nearly applies to *Libinia dubia*, of which this doubtful species is considered a variety by A. Milne Edwards.)

¹ *Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.*, p. 28, 1879.