

slender, almost filiform, with the merus and palm elongated; fingers slightly incurved at the tips and denticulated on the inner margins. The ambulatory legs are moderately elongated and very slender, with the dactyli styliform.

The four recent species described by authors are probably, as I have stated below, identical with *Ixa cylindrus*, Fabricius, which is probably distributed throughout the Indo-Pacific region from the Mauritius to the Philippines and Borneo, and also occurs in a fossil state in recent alluvial or perhaps quaternary deposits (*vide* A. Milne Edwards, Ann. Soc. Entom. France, p. 156, 1865).

Ixa cylindrus (Fabricius), var. *megaspis*.

Ixa megaspis, Adams and White, Crust. in Zool. H.M.S. "Samarang," p. 55, pl. xii. fig. 1, 1848.

Manila, 1 fathom (an adult male). Presented to Dr. Willemoes-Suhm by Mr. Baer.¹

Iliacantha, Stimpson.

Iliacantha, Stimpson, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., vol. ii. p. 155, 1870.

Carapace convex, ovoid or subglobose, with the lateral margins arcuated, with a protuberance or tubercle upon the pterygostomian regions, and with three posterior lobes or spines, as in *Myra* and *Persephona*. The front (in the species I have examined) is narrow and anteriorly slightly concave, and the orbit has more or less distinct indications of three marginal fissures and a wide interior hiatus. Pterygostomian channels distally very strongly defined and bi-emarginate. Post-abdomen (in the young male) distinctly seven-jointed. Eyes small. Antennules (in the species I have examined) slightly oblique. Antennæ with a very slender basal antennal joint, which does not fill the interior orbital hiatus; flagellum of moderate length. Exterior maxillipedes with the ischium-

¹ The late Mr Bell, in his monograph of the Leucosiidæ (*Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond. (Zool.)*, vol. xxi. p. 311, 1855), united all the then described species of *Ixa* under the common designation *Ixa cylindrus* (Fabricius). It is probable, indeed, that no characters can be discovered of sufficient value to separate three of these forms specifically, but it may be of service here to indicate the distinctions by which the specimens in the collection of the British (Natural History) Museum may be at present separated.

In that which I think to be the typical *Ixa cylindrus*, Fabricius (*Ixa canaliculata*, Leach) the median portion of the carapace (circumscribed by the deep and wide lateral and postfrontal channels), has its margins sinuated or notched; in the variety *megaspis*, Adams and White, they are entire, and in both the tubercles of the posterior margin are small or obsolete. A third (unnamed) variety, represented by a single female from the Philippines (Cuming) resembles *megaspis* in all particulars except that the later processes of the carapace are without the terminal spinule of that variety and *cylindrus*.

Ixa inermis, of Leach, with which I think *Ixa edwardsii* of Lucas (*Ann. Soc. Entom. France*, vol. vi. p. 179, pl. iv. fig. 3, 1858) to be identical, may be distinguished by the absence of the lateral and postfrontal channels of the carapace (which, however, are represented in the type of *inermis* by an impressed suture on either side of the cardiac region), by the large rounded tubercles of the posterior margin of the carapace, and by the somewhat distally-narrowed lateral processes of the carapace (which are without terminal spinules), and may with more probability be regarded as specifically distinct.