

pair of pereopoda small, chelate, symmetrical, equal; posterior pair terminating in a small styliform dactylos. First somite of the pleon shorter than the second and following. External branch of the rhipidura not longer than the inner.

A mastigobranchia present on all the pereopoda except the posterior pair, and a podobranchia is attached to four.

This family contains the following genera:—*Axius*, *Paraxius*, *Eiconaxius*, of the first of which no specimen is in this collection.

*Geographical Distribution.*—*Axius* has been taken only on the southern coast of England; *Paraxius* off Celebes Island; and *Eiconaxius* south of Celebes, and near the Kermadec Islands in the West Pacific.

*Paraxius*, n. gen.

Characters generally resembling *Axius*, but distinguished by having the first somite of the pleon, especially in the extent of the lateral walls, much smaller than the second.

The eyes are fixed on broad bands or conical peduncles. The second pair of antennæ has neither scaphocerite nor stylocerite attached to the peduncle. The hands of the first pair of pereopoda are broader at the dactyloid articulation than at the carpal. Telson quadrate.

*Paraxius altus*, n. sp. (Pl. V. fig. 1, d-z).

Lateral walls of the carapace deep; rostrum pointed, flattened dorsally; margins serrate. Second pair of gnathopoda with the dactylos broad and compressed, all the joints subequal in length. First pair of pereopoda having the right propodos large, slightly narrower at the carpal than at the dactyloid joint; pollex thick at the base, sharp, pointed, curved, and smooth; a strong point or tooth at the upper distal angle of the propodos; dactylos robust, curved, pointed, smooth. Second pair of pereopoda having the hand long, ovate; dactylos broad, thick, and obtusely pointed, of the same shape as the pollex.

Length, 25 mm. (1 inch).

*Habitat.*—Station 218, north of Papua, March 1, 1875; lat. 2° 33' S., long. 144° 4' E.; depth, 1070 fathoms; bottom, blue mud; bottom temperature, 36°·4.

Carapace about one-third the length of the animal. Compressed laterally, rather more anteriorly than posteriorly. Lateral walls deep, but not produced anteriorly in advance of the dorsal frontal margin, or posteriorly much behind the posterior dorsal margin. Rostrum flat, triangular, with an acute apex; the margins serrate, with three or four upwardly-curved teeth on each side.

First somite of the pleon short; having small coxal plates elevated into a lobe