

infer from an examination of them whether it was of marine, estuarine, or inland origin.

The marine Ostracoda of the British Islands consist of at least thirty genera, of which twenty-eight are represented in the Challenger collection; but it must be remembered that during the cruise of the Challenger very few collections were made in the neighbourhood of the shore, which region usually swarms with these small animals. The genus *Paradoxostoma* in British seas, is almost exclusively a littoral one, and it is in this zone that many members of other genera attain their highest development, and there is no doubt that shore-collecting in the tropical and subtropical seas would yield rich results to a student of Ostracoda.

Only two natatory pelagic species have been found by the Challenger to exist in all the areas explored, viz., *Halocypris atlantica* and *Halocypris brevirostris*. These were sometimes captured in great numbers when the tow-net was dragged about

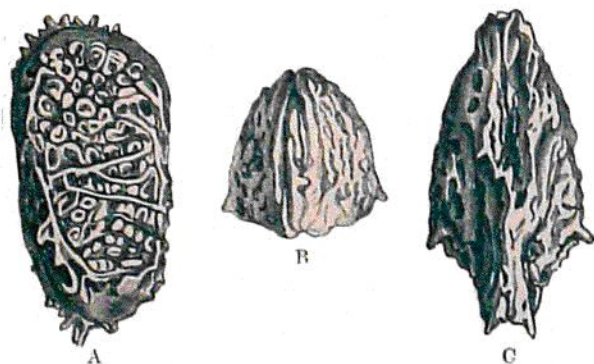


FIG. 315.—*Cythere dictyon*, G. S. Brady.
Male; A, from the side; B, from the front; C, from below.

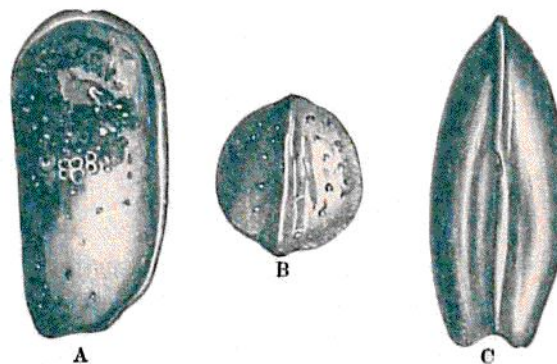


FIG. 316.—*Krithe producta*, G. S. Brady.
A, male, left side; B, female, from the front; C, male, from below.

50 fathoms beneath the surface. The reason of this wide distribution is sufficiently clear if it be remembered that as regards animals living for the most part near the surface of the sea, and dependent, probably, upon no restricted or specially localised supplies of food, the only impediments to universal distribution are conditions of temperature. So far as yet appears, the limit of endurance in these species is reached at about 50° S. and 35° N. latitude.

The species which are most nearly cosmopolitan in their distribution are *Cythere dictyon* (see fig. 315), *Cythere dasyderma*, and *Cythere acanthoderma*. This statement, however, by no means expresses their ubiquitous distribution in the deep sea, a fact which only becomes apparent when it is observed that amongst the forty-five dredgings exceeding 100 fathoms at which Ostracoda were taken, *Cythere dictyon* is noted twenty-three times, *Cythere dasyderma* nineteen times, and *Cythere acanthoderma* seven times.

One of the most common of deep-sea Ostracoda is *Krithe producta* (see fig. 316),
(NARR. CHALL. EXP.—VOL. I.—1885.)