

II. ANATOMY AND DESCRIPTION OF GENERA AND SPECIES.

On examining the various species that have been placed in the genus *Halobates*, it soon became evident that they could not with propriety be retained in one genus, and that, in fact, they make part of at least three genera. As, however, this paper deals only with those genera, some, if not all, of the species of which are marine, two genera only require to be noticed. These are *Halobates* proper and a new genus *Halobatodes*. Had the species of the latter genus not existed, there would also be grounds for establishing a new sub-family for the genus *Halobates*. As it is, *Halobatodes* (of which the typical species is *Halobates lituratus*, Stål) and *Stephania* (a new genus proposed for the reception of *Halobates pictus*, Germar) form connecting links between *Halobates* and the more typical genera of the sub-family *Hydrobatina*, in which *Halobates* has hitherto been placed. To retain it in this position, however, some modification in the definition of the sub-family will be necessary; as, for example, in this respect, that, while the *Hydrobatina* are said to have two-jointed tarsi, *Halobates* has the hinder tarsi only one-jointed.

The two genera under consideration may be thus distinguished:—

1. Body thickly clothed with short pubescence; front tibia with a triangular dilatation near the apex; middle tibia and first joint of tarsus with a long fringe; hind tarsus with one joint, *Halobates*
2. Body more sparsely clothed with short pubescence; front tibia cleft, but not with a triangular dilatation at the apex; middle tibia and tarsus without a long fringe; hind tarsus with two joints, *Halobatodes*.

HALOBATES, Eschscholtz.

Entomographien, i. p. 106, 1822.

Body oval or oblong.

Head shortly triangular.

Antennæ four-jointed, with two intermediate jointlets. First joint always the longest.

Rostrum four-jointed; first and second joints very short, the latter ringlike; third joint the longest.