

shorter than the second; fourth subequal in length to the second and third taken together. Front tarsus with first joint less than one-half (two-fifths) the length of the second. Middle tarsus with first joint seven times longer than the second.

♂. Length 3, breadth 1.75, middle femur 3.25, hind femur 2.5 mm.

♀. Length 3, breadth 2, middle femur 3, hind femur 2.25 mm.

Habitat.—Next to *Halobates willerstorffi*, the most abundant species, but almost confined to the North Pacific Ocean, over which, within or near the tropics, it is widely diffused. Less abundant in the South Pacific. Two specimens, which seem inseparable from *sericeus*, were taken by the Challenger in the North Atlantic, near the Cape de Verde Islands. Amyot and Serville record its occurrence near the Cape of Good Hope, and Fairmaire from near Madagascar; but I have not seen specimens from either locality, and it is possible that these were not correctly determined, since any small grey *Halobates* was always referred to *sericeus*.

The specimens I have examined are from the following sources:—

Challenger Specimens.

North Pacific localities:—Many stations on the voyage from the Admiralty Islands to Japan, and from Japan to Honolulu (or—in other words—common between the equator and lat. 38° N., and between long. 137° E. and 154° W., thus ranging considerably north of the tropics).

South Pacific:—Lat. 23° 46' S., and long. 149° 59' W.

North Atlantic:—About lat. 11° N., long. 32° W.

Specimens from other Sources.

Pacific between Cape Horn and San Francisco (*Liverpool Museum*). “Ocean Austral” (*Berlin Museum*). “Pacific.—Lat. 24°–34°, long. 120°–115°” (*Stockholm Museum*).

♂. Ovate, widest a little before the middle. Ashy grey. Antennæ, rostrum, legs, and genital segments fuscous black, clothed more or less with grey pubescence. Head with an ill-defined reddish oblong transverse blotch on each side at the hind margin. Eyes brown or, more rarely, yellowish. Rostrum for apical half, front femora, and last genital segment below more or less shining black. Abdomen with the ventral hind margins sometimes very obscurely reddish luteous.

Antennæ (Pl. I. fig. 7, *a.*) comparatively stout, about half as long as the body; first joint more than one-third shorter than the other three joints taken together; second incrassate upwards, about two-fifths the length of first; third cylindrical, shorter than the second; fourth stout, slightly and gradually incrassate upwards, subequal in length to the second and third taken together.