latifrons is conspicuous by its strongly arched dorsal surface, which, together with the shortness of the epimera, causes this species to resemble in general aspect the more typical forms of the Cymothoadæ.

The outline of the body varies from oval (*Serolis tuberculosa*) or even pear-shaped (*Serolis convexa*) to circular, and in the males of *Serolis schythei* and *Serolis cornuta* the diameter of the body from side to side is somewhat greater than the length.

In the majority of the Isopoda the "head" segments become fused with the first segment of the thorax, and form a cephalic shield which is freely movable upon the second thoracic segment. In *Serolis* the disposition of the anterior segments of the body differs much from other Isopoda. The first two thoracic segments are closely united and completely fused dorsally, though the sterna of the two remain distinct; in some species (*Serolis schythei*, *Serolis neæra*, &c.) an incomplete transverse suture upon the first epimera seems to mark the line of division between the two segments dorsally; in others again (*Serolis antarctica* and all the Australian species) the epimera of the two thoracic segments are completely united, and show no traces of their original distinctness; these epimera are always largely developed, and completely enclose the cephalic shield on both sides. The cephalic shield is very large and has the form of an heraldic shield; it is prolonged in front into a short rostrum; its shape varies considerably in the different species, in some (*Serolis neæra*, *Serolis paradoxa*) the antero-lateral portions are considerably expanded, and the transverse diameter is greatest here and decreases posteriorly; in other species (*Serolis convexa*, *Serolis schythei*) the cephalic shield is widest at the level of the eyes. In the majority of species the cephalic shield is separated from the two thoracic segments by a continuous suture; in *Serolis longicaudata* this suture is obsolete behind and indicates the commencement of the formation of a cephalothorax composed of the head segments and the two first thoracic segments as in *Tanais*, with which genus *Serolis* is considered by some to be closely connected. The five following thoracic segments are free; the eighth or terminal segment of the thorax differs from that of other Isopoda in being only represented ventrally by a short sternum, which is more or less intimately fused with that of the preceding segment, and is not prolonged into epimera; the tergum of this segment is entirely undeveloped, and the rudimentary condition of the whole segment (including the appendages, which are much smaller than those of the other thoracic segments) is interesting, inasmuch as in the Isopoda generally the terminal segment of the thorax is only developed very late.

The epimera of the thoracic segments are almost always largely developed in comparison with other Isopoda; and in some of the deep-sea species (*Serolis bromleyana*, *Serolis neæra*) are extraordinarily elongated, and terminate in sharp spiniform points. As a general rule the epimera are flat and sickle-shaped, curving back and gradually increasing in length up to the sixth pair, which are invariably the longest; sometimes (*Serolis latifrons*, *Serolis longicaudata*, &c.) the epimera are very short, and hardly exceed