

joint of peduncle. Mandibles provided with a palp. Maxillipedes expanded, operculiform; first pair of thoracic limbs (in the male only?) with a large prehensile manus, the penultimate joint swollen and subtriangular in form, with a row of serrate spines along the anterior margin which correspond to a row of similar spines upon the last joint; remaining pairs of limbs slender, ambulatory, with a double terminal claw. Caudal appendages biramous, inserted on the border of the shield-like abdomen near the extremity."

The genus *Stenetrium* is closely allied to *Ianthe*, *Asellus*, *Jæra* and *Janira*; it agrees with all these genera in the equality of size of the thoracic segments, differing in this respect from such genera as *Pleurogonium*, *Ischnosoma*, &c.

The genus has, however, been rightly distinguished by Haswell. The main points in which it differs from any of the above mentioned genera are as follows:—from *Asellus* it differs in the presence of two terminal claws on the ambulatory limbs, and in the fact that the male has only one pair of thoracic appendages modified into a prehensile hand instead of two; also, the existence of two free abdominal segments in *Asellus* is a character not found in *Stenetrium*. All the other genera mentioned agree with *Stenetrium* in having two terminal claws, while *Ianthe* and *Janira* show a still farther point of resemblance in the presence of a rudimentary exopodite on the antennæ;¹ *Stenetrium* is distinguished from *Janira*, by the powerful first thoracic limbs of the male, a character which does not appear to be found to so marked an extent in any other Isopod. From *Iolanthe* the latter characteristic sufficiently distinguishes *Stenetrium*, as well as the comparatively flattened depressed body and the form of the abdominal appendages (compare Pl. IV. fig. 13, with Bovallius, *loc. cit.*, pl. iii. figs. 29, 30, 32, 33, 34).

Of this genus four species are now known. Two species, *Stenetrium armatum* and *Stenetrium inerme*, have been described by Haswell from Sydney, Australia, in shallow water; a third species was dredged by Chilton in Lyttelton Harbour, New Zealand, and named by him *Stenetrium fractum*; the fourth species, *Stenetrium haswelli*, will be described in the following pages. It is the only one of the genus known from deep water, and it bears out one generalisation that has been arrived at from a study of the deep sea fauna, viz., that the inhabitants of deep water are larger than their shallow-water allies.

Stenetrium haswelli, F. E. Beddard (Pl. IV. figs. 1–8).

Stenetrium haswelli, F. E. Beddard, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1886, pt. i. p. 103.

This species, as already mentioned, is represented by a single example, dredged in 600 fathoms, off the east coast of South America.

¹ This fact has been pointed out by J. E. V. Boas (*Morphol. Jahrb.*, Bd. viii. p. 493 note, 1883) in the case of *Janira*; Bovallius (*Bihang til Svensk. Akad. Handl.*, Bd. vi., No. 4, pl. i. fig. 7) has depicted the articulated squame of *Ianthe speciosa*, while Mr. Chilton has noted and figured (*loc. cit.*, pl. xviii. fig. 3b), the same structure in *Stenetrium fractum*.