last species; the anterior three pairs are attached close to the anterior border of their segments, the two middle pairs close to the middle, and the posterior pair at the posterior extremity of its segment.

The abdomen is one-fifth of the length of the thorax; the first segment is rather longer than the three following, which are subequal, the segment is about equal in length to the first.

The *antennules* are more slender and shorter than the antennæ, and are much shorter than the head; they are four-jointed, the basal joint being the longest and stoutest; the three distal joints are subequal in length but diminish progressively in width.

The *antennæ* are shorter than the head but considerably longer and stouter than the antennules. The basal joint is excavated in the same fashion as in *Paranthura chiltoni* in the stoutest and largest joint; the following joint is extremely short, the two following longer, the more distal being the longer of the two; the terminal joint of the appendage is short and narrow and bears a dense tuft of hairs at its free extremity.

The *thoracic appendages* are specialised in the usual way, as in the last described species for example.

Station 149H, off Cumberland Bay, January 29, 1874, Kerguelen; depth, 127 fathoms; volcanic mud.

Family Sphæromidæ.

There is perhaps no family of the Isopoda in which the makers of new species and genera have run riot to the extent that they have in the Sphæromidæ; and the explanation of this is that the sexual dimorphism of many species is so pronounced that the males and females have often been assigned to different genera. So very many species and genera have been described, and in many cases so imperfectly, that it becomes a matter of the greatest difficulty to discriminate between new species and those that have already received a name, if not an adequate description. The family is evidently in need of a revision; but since this would be beyond the scope of the present work, it is hoped that in criticising the following new species the difficulties attending the study of this section of the Isopoda will be borne in mind.

Gerstæcker in his account of the Isopoda, in vol. v. of Bronn's Klassen und Ordnungen des Thierreichs, has associated together many genera regarded by naturalists, or at least regarded by some naturalists, as distinct; he includes within the genus *Sphæroma*, *Zuzara*, *Cycloidura*, *Isocladus*, and refers *Dynamene* to *Cymodocea* and *Cilicæa* to *Nesæa*; with this alteration I thoroughly concur, but would further associate *Nesæa* and *Cilicæa* with *Cymodocea*; the chief distinction between the two former genera and the latter is in the form of the uropoda, and I shall have occasion to show, in the course of