

typical *Sphæroma*; it must be remembered, however, that *Sphæroma* (*Isocladus*) differs from *Cilicæa* in that the dorsal spine is developed from the terminal segment of the thorax, while in *Cilicæa* it is an outgrowth of the abdomen; hence, there is no possibility of confounding these genera, although, on a superficial view, the similarity is great.

There are no reasons at present for supposing that *all* the species of the genera *Cymodocea* and *Sphæroma* exhibit this sexual dimorphism—in fact *Sphæroma gigas* certainly does not; but this is no reason for separating generically those forms with a well-marked sexual dimorphism from those without any great sexual differences, unless we have here a case of protective mimicry analogous to that exemplified in many Butterflies; for the present, therefore, it appears to me to be necessary to regard *Cymodocea*, *Nesæa* and *Cilicæa* as synonymous; I shall describe a new species under the generic title of *Cymodocea*.

The family Sphæromidæ is almost universally distributed, and is according to Gerstæcker more specially characteristic of the temperate regions, though found sparingly everywhere else. It is pre-eminently a shallow-water family, only one species, *Cymodocea abyssorum*, being found in the great depths of the ocean. It is interesting to note that in this species there are certain structural peculiarities analogous to those exhibited by *Bathynomus* and *Anuropus* (see p. 152), which may perhaps be the result of the habitat; the fourth and fifth pairs of abdominal limbs are in all Sphæromidæ modified into respiratory organs, the endopodite taking on this function more particularly, while the exopodite remains thin and membranous and serves as an operculum; in *Cymodocea abyssorum* both endopodite and exopodite are respiratory in structure, having the form of complicated folded plates. This fact, however, perhaps loses a good deal of its significance since exactly the same condition is met with in *Amphoroidea*, while *Anuropus* has no shallow-water allies in which there is a similar hypertrophy of the respiratory lamellæ. In *Amphoroidea typica* the fourth and fifth pairs of abdominal appendages are described and figured by Milne-Edwards as being exactly similar in structure to the one of *Cymodocea abyssorum*, and in *Amphoroidea falcifer*,¹ from New Zealand, I have myself observed precisely the same modification of their structure.

The eyes of *Cymodocea abyssorum* are white in colour, owing to a complete absence of pigment, a character frequently met with in deep-sea Isopoda.

Ceratocephalus, White, MS.

Ceratocephalus, White, MS., Woodward, Art. Crustacea, Encycl. Brit., ed. 9, p. 659.

Bregmocerella, Haswell, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., vol. ix. p. 1004.

This genus of Sphæromidæ has been described almost simultaneously by two different writers. Dr. Woodward, in his article Crustacea, published in the 9th edition of the

¹ A species kindly forwarded to me by Mr G. M. Thomson.