

The resemblance of the several species to each other appears to be great; the only appreciable distinction in the several descriptions, as given by their authors, exists in the variation of length and form of the rostrum.

*Nika processa*, n. sp. (Pl. XCV.).

Carapace one-third the length of the animal, anteriorly produced to a narrow pointed rostrum, subequal in length with the ophthalmopoda. Pleon smooth, having all the somites dorsally parallel.

The ophthalmopoda are pyriform and stand upon a small pedicle. The ophthalmus is large and reniform.

The first pair of antenna has the first joint deeply excavate on the upper surface, the second is cylindrical and as long as the first, and the third short and terminally supporting two unequal flagella, the shorter being subequal in length with the peduncle, the longer subequal with the animal.

The second pair carries a scaphocerite that is subequal in length with the peduncle of the first pair, and terminates in a long flagellum, now broken off at the length of the carapace, but in its perfect state it was probably longer than the animal.

The second pair of gnathopoda has the terminal two joints together shorter than the antepenultimate.

The first pair of pereopoda has the left limb, which is of generic value, broken off; that on the right is shorter than the second pair of gnathopoda, it is tolerably robust and terminates in a small chela. The second pair is long and slender, it has the carpos multiarticulate, and terminates in a minute chela; the right appendage being longer and more flexible than the left. The last three pairs are long and slender, the carpos being equal in length to the ischium and meros combined, and more than twice the length of the propodos; the dactylos is long and styliform.

Length, 26 mm. (1 in.).

*Habitat*.—Amboina; depth, 15 fathoms. One specimen; female.

*Observations*.—This was the only specimen of this species taken during the Challenger Expedition, and it is laden with numerous small ova. It bears a close general resemblance to the European type (*Nika edulis*); it appears to differ from it chiefly in size, the latter being three inches long, in the form of the ophthalmopoda, which are more pear-shaped, and in the length of the pereopoda, which are more slender.

On the label within the bottle the specimen is recorded as having been taken on the 6th October 1874, at a depth of 15 fathoms, at Amboina, the most southern island of the Molucca Group, near Station 195, while in the list of Stations the sounding is given as 1425 fathoms, so that, the Station being about 30 miles from shore, we may assume our specimen to have been a straggler taken near the surface.