For the original definition of the genus, see Note on Lamarck, 1801 (p. 66); Mayer characterises it as follows:—

- "The third and fourth segments of the Peræon are without legs.
- "The Mandible is without a palp.
- "There are only two pairs of Branchial Vesicles, these being attached to the third and fourth segments of the peræon.

"The Lower Antennæ have a two-jointed flagellum."

He adds that the dimorphism, so strongly developed in many species of the genus, to which Krøyer called attention, is brought about by the circumstance that in the male during growth an enormous elongation of the front part of the body often takes place, sometimes bringing the second gnathopods not only near to the distal end of their own segment, but sometimes to the middle of the animal's body. In this change the females and young males are not concerned. He considers that Haller has pointed out a useful distinction between species which have on the lower antennæ motor-setæ (Ruder-borsten), and those which have sensitive setæ (Sinnesborsten). Another mode of grouping species he finds in the distinction between those which in the adult male have the first joint of the second gnathopods very long, and those in which it remains short. Of minor and less decisive distinctions, he refers to the length of the upper antennæ and the number of joints that they have in the flagellum, and to the position of the palmar spines on the last three pairs of peræopods.

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¹ Spence Bate and Mayer both refer for this species to the Voy. en Scand., pl. vi. fig. 15, but there is no species so named on that Plate or in any part of the work referred to. The reference in the Brit. Mus. Catal. Amph. Crust., p. 362, was probably intended for a reference to the Naturh. Tidsskrift, which Mayer gives correctly.