

name "*Onidium spinosum*." It may be taken for granted that they represent the species *Oniscus spinosus* of Fabricius; they give a dorsal, a ventral, and a lateral view of the animal, and vary in length from four inches and three-quarters to nearly five inches and a half. Since, with the other Amphipoda which he represents, Parkinson gives life-size figures as well as the enlarged ones, it may be presumed from the absence of any small figure of "*Onidium spinosum*," that five inches was approximately the length of the actual specimen, or not so greatly in excess of it as to be thought to demand a more exact specification of the real size. In general appearance and details, and in particular in the antennæ and uropods, the figures agree with the male specimen brought home by the Challenger, but in the fifth peræopods there is the remarkable thickening of the fifth joint, which has been described for the female only and to which Fabricius no doubt alludes when describing this joint as "articulo ultimo clavato."

The male and female specimens which I have here placed together under the name *Cystisoma spinosum* (Fabr.), are regarded by Bovallius as representing two distinct species, the male being named by him *Thaumatops neptunus* (Guérin-Méneville), and the female *Thaumatops pellucida* (von Willemoes Suhm). In the female, the upper antennæ are longer than in the male, and have the termination of the long second joint swollen, containing a gland; the fifth joint of the fifth peræopods is swollen, smooth-edged, and full of gland-cells; the outer ramus in each pair of uropods is longer than the inner, and swollen near the apex, containing a gland. These make a striking group of differences, outside of those which are obviously sexual, but it will be noticed that there is probably a correlation between the differences, since all are connected with glandular contents of the organs concerned, in the lengthened antennæ at one end of the animal, and the lengthened rami of the uropods at the other, while in the peræopods, midway between these two extremities, it is easy to understand that the dentate edge, useful to a laminar joint, would be of no service to the joint when by the packing with gland-cells it becomes more or less cylindrical. In Parkinson's figure of "*Onidium spinosum*" we find the antennæ and uropods agreeing with the Challenger male specimen, but the fifth peræopods agreeing with the Challenger female specimen. From the perplexity which thus arises, it would be easy to escape by saying that Parkinson's is a third intermediate species between the other two, and future discoveries may prove this to be the true solution, but for the present I am disinclined to ground specific distinction on characters which may turn out to be merely sexual. Moreover, the differences, though striking when discussed on paper, are comparatively trivial when contrasted with the still more striking resemblance, both in general and in detail, which the two fine specimens present.