

DESCRIPTION OF GENERA AND SPECIES.

ANOMURA.

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,, Stimpson, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad. p. 63, 1858.
,, Miers, Catal. New Zealand Crust., p. 56, 1876.
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Cephalothorax always more strongly developed than the abdomen. Carapace broad or elongate; frontal region with in most cases a projecting rostrum which unites below with the antennular sternum; orbits and antennular fossæ seldom present. Antennules and antennæ well developed, the latter usually situated externally to the eyes and with long flagella. Outer maxillipedes elongated and pediform, more slender than in the Brachyura. Last thoracic segment often free and not fused with the preceding segments. Thoracic sterna usually broad in front, narrowed posteriorly, without a median apodeme. The three anterior pairs of legs well developed, the fifth pair (frequently also the fourth) slender and of small size, prehensile, or folded in the branchial chambers. Abdomen bent under the carapace or extended. Genital openings of the females placed on the basal joints of the third pair of legs. Branchiæ nine or more in number on each side.

The Anomura are found in all seas, but much more abundantly in those of tropical or temperate climates; a few forms are terrestrial or fluviatile (*Birgus*, *Cænobita*). The majority inhabit shallow water or moderate depths; two groups, however—the Pagurids and the Galatheids—are numerously represented in the abysses of the ocean; all are true bottom-living forms.

Our knowledge of the existence of Anomura in former geological ages is very