Lithodes is merely a highly specialised Pagurid (he considers it to be derived from *Eupagurus*), which has assumed certain Brachyuran characteristics. A somewhat similar parallel is seen in the case of *Birgus* and *Cœnobita*, though the distinction between the two latter is less strongly marked. In the Lithodids the abdomen has become bent under the cephalothorax, though its primitive asymmetry is still retained and the appendages of the penultimate segment have entirely disappeared.

The term Paguridea has been retained in order to ensure uniformity of nomenclature among the subtribes of Anomura, though it is of course now used in a much wider sense than that proposed by Dana.

Section A. LITHODEA.

Homoliens, Milne-Edwards, Hist. Nat. des Crust., t. ii. p. 180, 1837, *in part*.
Lithodeacea, De Haan, Crust. Japon., p, 213, 1850.
Lithodea, Dana, U.S. Explor. Exped., vol. xiii., Crust., part i. p. 401, 1852.
Lithodidea, Stimpson, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad., p. 68, 1858.

Carapace broadly ovate, uneven, with a prominent median rostrum in front, the regions well defined. Chelipedes and the three anterior pairs of legs well developed, cylindrical or subcylindrical, the posterior pair slender, chelate, folded in either branchial chamber. Abdomen bent under the thorax, composed of seven segments, the first of which is of small size and fused dorsally with the second; abdominal appendages only present in the female, consisting of a rudimentary pair on the first segment, and a single uniramous appendage on each of the four following segments (in *Hapalogaster*, Stimpson, the first of these is biramous). These last appendages are situated on the left side of the abdomen, which is more or less enlarged at the expense of the other side. Legs widely separated by broad thoracic sterna. Antennular peduncles cylindrical and of moderate size, with short flagella.

The members of this group (which form but a single family) inhabit the temperate and colder regions of both northern and southern hemispheres, where they live for the most part in shallow water; certain species have, however, been recently taken at great depths.