

GALATHEIDEA.

Galatheidæ, Boas, Vidensk. Selsk. Skr., 6 Række, nat. og math. Afd., i, 2, p. 124, 1880.

Carapace well developed; the frontal region prominent, provided with a median rostrum and frequently lateral processes. Eye-stalks short and stout. Antennal peduncle composed of four segments (the second and third having fused); the flagellum long and slender. Chelipedes elongated and not markedly asymmetrical; the first three pairs of ambulatory limbs well developed, the ultimate pair slender and inflexed, frequently chelate. Thoracic sterna broad. Abdomen symmetrical, composed of seven segments, of which the first is usually concealed by the carapace; the penultimate segment with a pair of lamellar appendages, which form with the telson a broad swimming fin; the second segment in the males nearly always provided with genital appendages.

This group as instituted by Boas includes the Porcellanids and the Galatheids, which were placed in separate subtribes by previous writers, several of whom had, however, noted their close affinities. The former must be regarded as highly specialised Galatheids, which have to a certain extent assumed Brachyuran characteristics, and though the abdomen still retains its primitive form, it has, in accordance with altered life-habits, become reduced in size and of secondary importance as an organ of locomotion.

As in the case of the Paguridea I have retained, though with wider significance, the subtribal name formerly applied to one of the sections only.

Section A. PORCELLANODEA.

Porcellaniens, Milne-Edwards, Hist. Nat. des Crust., t. ii. p. 246, 1837.

Porcellanidea, De Haan, Crust. Japon., p. 199, 1850.

„ Dana, U.S. Explor. Exped., vol. xiii., Crust., part i. p. 400, 1852.

„ Stimpson, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad., p. 65, 1858.

„ Miers, Catal. New Zealand Crust., p. 59, 1876.

„ Haswell, Catal. Austral. Crust., p. 145, 1882.

Carapace broadly ovate, smooth, with the regions but faintly defined; the front usually trilobed, and the processes never of great length. Chelipedes broad and often flattened, the ambulatory limbs robust and of moderate length. Antennules concealed; the antennal peduncle directed backwards. Eyes always pigmented and partially concealed in orbits. External maxillipedes with the ischium broad, and the merus provided with a prominent internal lobe. Abdomen bent under the thorax; females