Thalassina scorpionoides, Latreille (Pls. III., IV.).

Thalassina scorpionoides, Latr., Gen. Ins. et Crust., tom. i.

Cancer anomalus, Herbst., tom iii. tab. 62.

Thalassina scorpionides, Leach, Zool. Misc., vol. iii. p. 28, tab. 130; Desmarest, Consider. des Crustacés, p. 203, pl. xxxv. figs. 1, 2 a, b, c; Milne-Edwards, Hist. des Crust., tom ii. p. 316; Atlas du Règne anim. de Cuvier, Crustacés, pl. xlviii. fig. 1; Heller, Russ. frigate "Novara," p. 93.

Habitat.—Kandavu, Fiji Islands. One specimen.

Length, 225 mm. (9 inches).

The eyes are small, movable, and subconical in shape. Deposited in an imperfect orbit, formed by the obliquely directed inferior surface of the rostrum, on the inner side; by two teeth, one on the upper and outer angle being the anterior extremity of a short, smooth ridge or crest; the second, a smaller tooth, immediately beneath it; and on the lower side by an excavation in the upper surface of the inner antennæ, where a fringe of posteriorly directed hairs, coterminous with others that are anteriorly directed from the side of the rostrum, as well as from the upper external circuit of the orbit, forms a blepharis that surrounds and protects the eye.

The first pair of antennæ has the inner surface of the first joint compressed and flattened against that of the opposite side, the other surfaces slightly converging, and directed upwards; the second joint is much smaller and also directed upwards, the upper surface being slightly concave, and, with that of the first joint, forms a hollowed floor on which the eye rests; the upper surface of the first or coxal joint is perforated by an elongated triangular foramen or slit, the entrance to the auditory chamber, which is protected by a dense mass of ciliated hairs, also continuous within the auditory passage.

The auditory apparatus consists of a large calcareo-membranous chamber, attached to the upper wall of the antenna. Around the orifice that opens into it, within the chamber, there is a curved row of closely-planted delicately-ciliated hairs, each of which is attached to the base by a flexible membranous articulation, from which it proceeds flattened and tolerably broad for more than half its length, when it narrows rapidly and becomes ciliated, the cilia being short and fine; the hairs extend nearly if not quite across the auditory chamber, the floor of which is covered with small points, while the cavity contains much angular calcareous sand. This I found mostly gathered into a compact mass, but most probably when the animal was in a living condition it was not so, being then kept in a state of motion by the aid of the long slender ciliated hairs that have just been described. The auditory chamber occupies about two-thirds of the cavity of the first joint of the antenna.

The second pair of antennæ is in the same horizontal line with the first, immediately outside, being separated by a very narrow septum or calcified ridge. The five joints of which the peduncle is formed are separately defined, and this enables us to demonstrate