

numerously multiarticulate, and terminates in a small but apparently efficient chela, generally ovate in form. In *Cheirothrix* the second pair of pereiopoda is shorter than the third, the carpos is only a trifle longer than the meros and only five-articulate, and the propodos is as long as the carpos—a feature unknown in *Alpheus*—and instead of being ovate it gradually tapers from the same diameter as the carpos to a point, which appears to be broken into hairs of unusual and peculiar form as above described.

It is to be regretted that there is but one specimen, which precludes my being able to examine other and less conspicuous parts.

Alpheus, Fabricius.

Alpheus, Fabricius, Suppl. Entom. Syst., p. 404, 1778.

„ Risso, Crust. de Nice, p. 88, 1816.

Alphæus, Desmarest, Consid. sur les Crust., p. 222, 1825.

Alpheus, Milne-Edwards, Hist. Nat. Crust., tom. ii. p. 349.

This genus was first established by Fabricius, but was not clearly defined until Milne-Edwards described it.

The whole of the animal is dorsally rounded and laterally compressed; the ophthalmopoda are reduced in size, so that they are hidden beneath the anterior region of the carapace, which is so extremely thin over them as to become transparent, thus protecting the eyes without interfering with vision. The rostrum is short and pointed.

The first pair of antennæ has the peduncle short; the first joint is flattened, and carries a short stylocerite on the outer side, and the terminal supports two flagella, the inner of which has a tendency to bifurcate.

The second pair carries a long flagellum and a strong scaphocerite that terminates in a subapical point or sharp tooth.

The mandibles are robust, furnished with a molar protuberance distinctly separated from the concave and serrate psalidoma, and carry a short three-jointed synhipod.

The first pair of gnathopoda is short and five-jointed, the ultimate joint articulated at the inner and posterior angle of the penultimate, and reflexed against its inner margin.

The second pair of gnathopoda is pediform, five-jointed, subcylindrical, and carries a short and slender basephysis.

The first pair of pereiopoda is chelate, carries a large propodos, that on the right side being generally larger than that on the left, and is of a more or less abnormal form especially in the male. The second pair of pereiopoda is slender, minutely chelate, having the carpos long, cylindrical, and multiarticulate. The posterior three pairs are simple and terminate in a short robust dactylos.

The pleon is short and terminates in a telson that is broad and rounded; the outer plates of the tail-fan are furnished with a strongly marked diæresis.