The basal antennal joint in this species is united in the adult somewhat broadly with the infero-lateral process of the front at its antero-internal angle, but it does not enter the interior orbital hiatus.

Leptodius, A. Milne Edwards.

Leptodius, A. Milne Edwards, Ann. d. Sci. Nat., ser. 4, vol. xx. p. 283, 1863; Nouv. Archiv. Mus. Hist. Nat., vol. ix. p. 221, 1873.
Chlorodius (sect. 2), Dana, U.S. Explor. Exped., vol. xiii., Crust. 1, p. 207, 1852.
Xanthodius (subgenus), Stimpson, Ann. Lyc. Nat. Hist. New York, vol. vii. p. 52, 1859.

In this genus the carapace is widely transverse, somewhat depressed, and very distinctly lobulated in its anterior half, posteriorly nearly plain; the frontal margin is truncated and slightly sinuated, with a median notch or fissure; the antero-lateral margins are longer than the postero-lateral margins, and are normally divided into four teeth or lobes, besides the exterior orbital tooth, which is usually obsolete; behind the last antero-lateral tooth are occasionally one or two smaller teeth on the postero-lateral margin; the marginal teeth are usually dentiform, not rounded as in Actaodes. The post-abdomen in the male is five-jointed; the three intermediate segments coalescent and forming a single joint. The superior margins of the orbits are marked with two slight notches and fissures. The basal antennal joint reaches the infero-lateral process of the front or even enters slightly within the interior orbital hiatus. The merus of the exterior maxillipedes is truncated or slightly notched at the distal extremity, and its antero-internal angle is slightly emarginate or sinuated; its antero-external angle is often slightly produced.

The chelipedes in the adult male are moderately developed; the merus or arm is short and almost invariably covered in a dorsal view by the antero-lateral margins, carpus dentated on the inner margin, palm not cristated above, fingers excavated at the distal extremity. The ambulatory legs are moderately developed, with the fourth to the sixth joints slightly compressed, but not carinated or spinose; dactyli styliform.

This genus may be considered the representative in the Chlorodiinæ of Xantho in the Cancrinæ; it is also nearly allied to Carpilodes, Actwodes, and to the genus which follows (Phymodius).

From Carpilodes and Actwodes it is usually to be distinguished by the dentiform or tuberculiform antero-lateral marginal teeth, not to speak of other characters.

The species are somewhat numerous; several inhabit the Indo-Pacific region. Two species, Leptodius macandrew and Leptodius punctatus, occur in the West Atlantic or at the Canaries and Cape Verde Islands. The others inhabit the American coasts from Florida to Brazil, and from California to Chili. One species (Leptodius cooksoni) occurs at the Galapagos. None, I believe, have been recorded from very deep water. They may be distributed under two subgeneric divisions or sections as follows:—