

obscurely carinated; the front emarginated or subtruncated or quadridentated, the hepatic regions are usually concave; the lateral margins are entire or more or less distinctly tuberculated or toothed, but the tubercles are very rarely spiniform. The orbits are very small, circular, with two or three closed marginal fissures and an interior hiatus; the buccal cavity is not separated from the antennular fossæ by any distinct epistoma, and the endostomial ridges are very strongly defined. The post-abdomen in the male is narrow and four or five-jointed, with several of the intermediate segments coalescent, and it covers the sternum at base, between the bases of the fifth ambulatory legs. Eyes very small. Antennular fossæ oblique, or nearly transverse. The antennæ are very small and their basal joint enters the interior orbital hiatus. The exterior maxillipedes cover the whole of the buccal cavity; the merus of the endognath, as usual, is triangulate, and the exognath has a straight or somewhat curved exterior margin.

The chelipedes (in the male) are subequal and of moderate length, or more rarely, considerably elongated; with the merus subcylindrical or somewhat trigonous, palm and fingers usually compressed. The ambulatory legs are slender and small, with the joints usually smooth; dactyli styliform.

The species are small and numerous and inhabit the sublittoral or deeper waters both of the Atlantic and Indo-Pacific regions. The species of the section *Phlyxia*, Bell, are, as far as at present known, restricted to Australia.

From the genus *Nursia* (to which it is nearly allied), *Ebalia* differs in the less produced margins of the carapace, which are not cristated, &c.

The genera *Ebalia* and *Phlyxia* are now connected by so many intermediate species, that not one of the distinctive characters mentioned by Bell can be regarded as constant. I propose, therefore, to unite these genera, but to separate the species under two primary sections or subgenera (for which the names *Ebalia* and *Phlyxia* may conveniently be retained) as follows:—

I. Front slightly concave or truncated, not quadridentated (*Ebalia*<sup>1</sup>):—

*Ebalia tuberosa* (Pennant) = *Ebalia insignis*, Lucas, *vide* Heller. European Seas; Adriatic; Mediterranean, to 250 metres (Heller).

*Ebalia tumefacta* (Mont.) = *Ebalia aspera*, Costa, *vide* Heller. European Seas; Mediterranean; Adriatic.

*Ebalia cranchii* (Leach) = *Ebalia discrepans*, Costa, and *Ebalia deshayesii*, Lucas, *vide* Heller. European Seas; Mediterranean; Adriatic. This species and the preceding are mentioned by Heller to occur in 30 to 40 fathoms.

*Ebalia granulosa*, Milne Edwards. Mediterranean, Corfu (Coll. Brit. Mus.).

*Ebalia edwardsii*, Costa = *Ebalia algerica*, Lucas. Mediterranean.

<sup>1</sup> The synonyms of the Mediterranean species are as given by Dr. Heller, *Crust. südlichen Europa*, pp. 124-128, 1863.