Pentacheles, Spence Bate.

Pentacheles, Sp. B., Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. ii. p. 276, 1878.

All the pereiopoda are more or less perfectly chelate in both sexes, the ophthalmopoda are immovably lodged in a notch in the anterior dorsal surface of the carapace, and the anterior portion projects beneath the antero-lateral angle of the carapace, which is produced anteriorly to a level with the central rostral tooth.

Geographical Distribution.—The range of this genus comprises probably the whole Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, as species have been taken in the sea around the Philippine Islands as well as on the western coast of South America and at the intermediate stations of the Fiji and Kermadec Islands. A. Milne-Edwards describes two, Pentacheles validus and Pentacheles agassizii, from the West Indian region of the Atlantic, and Sidney Smith has taken Pentacheles sculptus in Mid Atlantic.

Pentacheles obscura, Spence Bate (Pl. XV. fig. 2).

Pentacheles obscura, Sp. B., Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 5, vol. ii. p. 279, 1878.

Carapace furry on the dorsal surface. Lateral margins furnished with few teeth, not conspicuous from being intermingled with hairs. Regions not well defined marginally. Anterior division furnished with three or four small teeth separated from each other, median with three, posterior division with five or six. Anterior median armed with two rostral teeth; half way to the cervical suture are two more, posterior to which is one small one, and the rest of the median ridge is either smooth or crested with small granulations. Pleon carinate; central ridge tuberculate rather than denticulate.

Length, 25 mm. (1 in.).

Habitat.—Station 218, March 1, 1875; lat. 2° 33′ S., long. 144° 4′ E., north of New Guinea; depth, 1070 fathoms; bottom, blue mud; bottom temperature, 36°.4.

This specimen is in a very poor condition, and has much the appearance of one that had recently cast its skin. The dorsal surface of the carapace is of a rougher character than usual, the small granulations that carry the short curved hairs being rather prominent. The median ridge is furnished with a double row of granulations, except at the anterior excremity where there are two small teeth side by side, and there are two others similarly placed on the gastric region. The denticulation of the lateral margin is not clearly determinable in consequence of its hirsute character.

The ophthalmopoda support a strong tooth, rather longer than usual, and are implanted in a wide-mouthed but not deep notch.

The first pair of antennæ has the inner margin of the first joint of the peduncle