

Genus *Hypoconcha*, Guérin-Méneville.

*Hypoconcha*, Guérin-Méneville, Rev. et Mag. Zool., sér. 2, No. 6, p. 333, 1854.

„ Stimpson, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad., p. 64, 1858.

Carapace flattened, membranous above; the anterior border arcuate and sharply defined, overhanging a triangular frontal region the apex of which is directed downwards. External maxillipedes with the meral joints large, and the external-lateral angles of the latter somewhat produced; the exognath robust. The ultimate and penultimate pairs of ambulatory limbs furnished with Y-shaped dactyli. Sternal sulci in the female widely separate, each terminating in a tubercle opposite the basal joint of the second ambulatory leg.

The members of this genus are, so far as is known at present, confined to the West Indies and the neighbouring shores of America. The protection which so many Dromiids obtain from an Ascidian or Sponge, is in the present case afforded by the detached valve of a Lamellibranch, and the *Hypoconcha* is able to closely adjust the chelipedes and ambulatory legs to the under surface of its body. The genus *Conchoecetes*, established by Stimpson for the *Cancer artificiosa* of Herbst—a native of the Chinese seas,—also possesses this peculiar habit, as well as an Australian species, *Dromia conchifera*, Haswell.

*Hypoconcha sabulosa* (Herbst).

*Faux Bernard l'Hermite*, Nicholson, Essai sur l'Hist. Nat. de Saint-Domingue, p. 338, pl. vi. figs. 3, 4, 1776.

*Cancer sabulosus*, Herbst, Naturg. Krabben u. Krebse, tab. xlviii. figs. 2, 3, 1796.

*Faux Bernard l'Hermite de Nicholson*, Lamarck, Hist. anim. sans vert., t. v. p. 264, 1818.

*Hypoconcha sabulosa*, Guérin-Méneville, Rev. et Mag. Zool., sér. 2, No. 6, pl. v. p. 333, 1854.

„ „ Stimpson, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad., p. 64, 1858.

*Habitat.*—St. Thomas, West Indies; shallow water.

Two adult specimens in the collection—a male and a female, the latter bearing ova—agree with Guérin-Méneville's description and figure.<sup>1</sup> The last two abdominal segments in the female are, however, slightly granulated, a character which Stimpson assigns to his species *Hypoconcha arcuata*, originally taken at St. Thomas.

<sup>1</sup> It is to be noted that in this author's plate, figures 1 and 5 represent two very different configurations of the anterior border of the carapace. The Challenger specimens agree with the first of these, in which the border is well rounded off and only a very slight concavity exists on either side.