Neotanais, F. E. Beddard.

Neotanais, F. E. Beddard, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1886, pt. i. p. 117.

Definition.—Body elongated and narrow, everywhere of approximately the same diameter. Cephalothorax slightly projecting between the antennæ; ocular lobes present but extremely minute, oval, pointed anteriorly. First pair of antennæ (in the male) with a three-jointed peduncle and a flagellum of four joints. Second pair of antennæ more slender but of equal length, with a five-jointed peduncle and a short four-jointed flagellum. Mandibles with the usual structure, with a slender extremity and a stout molar process. Chelæ very stout, the distal section of the penultimate joint extremely broad with a toothed margin anteriorly terminating in the usual slender hooked extremity; last joint much more slender than the corresponding portion of the fifth joint. Succeeding thoracic appendages similar to each other, the first only somewhat more slender and shorter than the rest. Abdominal appendages all present. Uropoda extremely long, with an eight-jointed endopodite and a small two-jointed exopodite.

Remarks.—I have thought it necessary to institute a new genus for two small Tanaids, one dredged in the Atlantic off the coast of South America, in 1900 fathoms, the other also in the Atlantic but further to the north, and in 1252 fathoms. This genus comes nearest to Heterotanais, Sars, but differs in the great length of the endopodite of the uropoda and in the fact that the chelæ are fully developed and of the normal structure in the male; as in Heterotanais the exopodite of the uropoda is distinctly two-jointed, and this character distinguishes both genera from Leptochelia, Dana, as also do the form of the chelæ in the male. A well-marked characteristic of this genus is the specialisation of the thoracic appendages into an anterior and posterior series; in the three anterior thoracic appendages the distal joint is a simple, elongated, somewhat curved claw; in the posterior appendages this terminal joint is furnished at its extremity with a circlet of stout spines and a long, mesially placed, slender hair.

Neotanais americanus, F. E. Beddard (Pl. XVI. figs. 4-6).

Neotanais americanus, F. E. Beddard, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1886, pt. i. p. 118.

The present species is the only representative of this new genus; the specific as well as the generic characters depend upon the examination of two male specimens, each of which measures about 6 mm. in length.

The body is depressed and elongated, everywhere of approximately the same diameter. It is smooth both dorsally and ventrally, with no hairs or spines.

The cephalothorax is pear-shaped, narrower anteriorly and wider posteriorly; it is about as long as the first two segments of the thorax taken together; the anterior margin