Family II. PORTUNIDÆ.

Portuniens, Milne Edwards (tribe), Hist. Nat. Crust., vol. i. p. 432, 1834.

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A. Milne Edwards (family), Archiv. Mus. Hist. Nat., vol. x. p. 311, 1861.

Portunidæ and Platyonychidæ, Dana, U.S. Explor. Exped., vol. xiii. Crust. 1, pp. 267, 290, 1852.

Carapace (in the recent forms at least), depressed, usually more or less hexagonal, never very convex. Fifth pair of ambulatory legs nearly always natatorial, with the dactylus ovate, expanded, and lamellate.

Species marine or littoral.

The genera of this family have been grouped under the following primary sections:—

I. Portuninæ. II. Podophthalminæ.

Section I. Portuninæ.

Portuniens normaux, A. Milne Edwards, Ann. d. Sci. Nat., ser. 4, vol. xiv. p. 225, 1860; Archiv. Mus. Hist. Nat., vol. x. pp. 311, 312, 1861.

Carapace moderately transverse, and usually widest at the last antero-lateral marginal spine. Front horizontal, and not spatuliform. Orbits and eye-peduncles of moderate length; the spine or tooth at the exterior angle of the orbit does not project laterally beyond the antero-lateral marginal teeth; of these more than one (usually from five to nine), are developed.

In the following classification, which is a modification of that proposed by A. Milne Edwards, the recent genera of this section are subdivided into four groups or subfamilies.

Subfamily 1. LUPINÆ.

Lupéens, Carupiens, Lupocycliens, A. Milne Edwards, Archiv. Mus. Hist. Nat., vol. x. p. 311, 1861.

Carapace transverse, with the antero-lateral margins oblique, and usually armed with more than five (from five to nine) marginal teeth. Basal antennal joint moderately developed. Chelipedes usually elongated. Fifth legs natatorial, with the terminal joint expanded and ovate.

1. Flagellum occupying the interior orbital hiatus.

Genera:—Neptunus, de Haan (= Euctenota, Gerstæcker; Posidon, Herklots, and ?Arenæus, Dana), with the subgenera Amphitrite, de Haan (= Pontus, de Haan), Achelous, de Haan, and Hellenus, A. Milne Edwards; Callinectes, Stimpson; Xiphonectes, A. Milne Edwards; Scylla, de Haan; ? Lupocyclus, Adams and White (with subgenus Parathranites, nov.); ? Carupa, Dana.