Habitat.—Station 208, January 17, 1875; lat. 11° 37′ N., long. 123° 31′ E.; off Manila; depth, 18 fathoms; bottom, blue mud. Two specimens; females, one with ova. Trawled.

Observations.—This species, which comes from the same station as Alpheus spiniger, corresponds very closely with Stimpson's description of Alpheus biunguiculatus. According to that author it differs from Alpheus neptunus in having no spine on the palm at the base of the fingers in the larger hand ("manus majoris palma spina ad basin digitorum armata"). In the two specimens in this collection the larger hand is wanting. Dana does not figure any such spine, neither does he allude to it in his description, and he also figures his species Alpheus neptunus as having the dactylos of the third and following pairs uniunguiculate, whereas Stimpson says that it is biunguiculate. Had Dana figured the fifth or last pair as being so formed, we might have supposed that he overlooked that of the third and fourth pairs; for frequently, if not always, when the dactylos of the third and fourth pair is biarticulate, that on the fifth is single; but as he figures the third pair we cannot suppose him to have been incorrect. I therefore attribute our specimens to Stimpson's species Alpheus biunguiculatus.

This species corresponds with Heller's description of Alpheus charon, which was procured off the Nicobar Islands, and of which he says that "this species possesses on the frontal margin three pointed, spine-like processes, the central one of which is somewhat the longest, and reaches as far as the anterior end of the first joint of the first antennæ. On the last three pairs of pereiopoda the chela is very short and furnished with a double claw. In most other points this species corresponds closely with Alpheus neptunus." I have thus been induced to associate them as the same species.

Alpheus neptunus, Dana (Pl. CI. fig. 2).

Alpheus neptunus, Dana, U.S. Explor. Exped., Crust., vol. i. p. 553, pl. xxxv. fig. 5.
,, Stimpson, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad., p. 100, January 1860.

Anterior margin of the carapace anteriorly produced to a short sharp-pointed rostrum. Orbital margins anteriorly produced into a long tooth over each ophthalmopod, and subequal with the rostrum.