Munida sp.

A single imperfect specimen of a Munida from Station 23, off Sombrero Island, West Indies; depth, 450 fathoms; bottom, Pteropod ooze, is preserved in the collection. It is apparently a young individual, and probably belongs to one of the numerous species described by Professor Alphonse Milne-Edwards from the West Indies. The body is smooth and glabrous, the striæ being faintly granular; the gastric area of the carapace is armed in front with a transverse row of spinules, only two of which (placed behind the supraorbitals) attain any considerable size; the rostrum is almost half the length of the carapace, and twice the length of the supraorbital spines, while the latter are somewhat flattened. The second, third, and fourth abdominal segments are armed with a pair of submedian spines each, and the first of these segments bears in addition three lateral spinules on each side. The eyes are of a light brown hue. The merus of the external maxillipedes is elongated, and provided with two spinules on the inner margin,—one at the distal end, the other near the proximal end.

Genus Munidopsis, Whiteaves.

Munidopsis, Whiteaves, Amer. Journ. Sci., ser. 3, vol. vii. p. 212, 1874.

Galathodes, A. Milne-Edwards, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., vol. viii. No. 1, p. 53, 1880.

Orophorhynchus, A. Milne-Edwards, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., vol. viii. No. 1, p. 58, 1880.

Rostrum spinulous, and usually more or less triangular, with its margins rarely dentate or spinose. Carapace rugose, or spinose, and in most cases glabrous. Chelipedes and ambulatory limbs of variable length, and frequently spinose, the dactyli of the latter with their posterior margins often dentate. Eyes devoid of pigment, with the peduncle frequently prolonged beyond the cornea in the form of a spine or spines. Antennal peduncle usually stout. Eggs few in number and of large size.

The members of this genus have been taken in almost all seas the deep water of which has been explored by the dredge, and they are found at depths varying from about 100 to upwards of 2000 fathoms. The species differ widely among themselves in the form of those parts which in other Crustacea afford generic characters; and yet it is impossible to effect a natural subdivision, or one which is not founded on a single character to the exclusion of others. It is probable that the loss of sight is compensated by a greater development of the tactile sense, and in some species this is evidenced by the great length of the antennal flagella, which in all probability enable the animal to grope its way about on the bottom.