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XV.—*A Conspectus of the Species of Paratelphusa, an Indo-Malayan Genus of Freshwater Crabs.* By JAMES WOOD-MASON, Professor of Comparative Anatomy, Medical College, Calcutta.

THE genus *Paratelphusa* was established in 1855 by Milne-Edwards for the reception of two new species of crabs, one of which (*P. sinensis*) was supposed to have come from the "China seas," the other (*P. tridentata*) from New Zealand.

Stimpson, in his preliminary account of the Invertebrata collected during the United-States expedition to the North Pacific, records the occurrence of the former at Canton, in brackish water; and Heller ('Reise d. österr. Fregatte Novara,' zoologisch. Theil, Crustacee, p. 34) gives Java as a locality for the latter.

Dr. E. von Martens (in 'Archiv für Naturgesch.' 1868, pp. 18–22) states that he himself had collected specimens of *P. sinensis* on the banks of freshwater streams at Bangkok and Petshaburi, in Siam, and of *P. tridentata* at Sinkawang in Western Borneo, at Surabaya in Eastern Java, and at Lahat in Central Sumatra, and satisfactorily accounts for the mistake in the localities given for the original examples of the species by Milne-Edwards.

In 1871 I myself described two new species, the one from Upper Burmah and the other from the Gangetic valley, throughout which it occurs from Hardwar (the point at which the great river issues from the Siwalik Hills) far down into the delta, where the water is brackish; and I then pointed out that the species resembled many Canceridæ, and differed from all the rest of the Telphusidæ in having the distal ends of the meropodal joints of the chelipeds armed with a sharp spine: not only are they to be distinguished by the presence of this spine and by being in other respects more like certain Canceridæ, but also by the armature of the antero-lateral margins of the carapace, the teeth of which in point of number and form are as constant for the several species as are those of the Portunidæ.

The following conspectus, giving short characteristics, which it is hoped will suffice for the ready recognition of the different forms in the mean time, is published in anticipation of fuller accounts in my illustrated monograph of all the Telphusidæ of India and its dependencies.

I am indebted to Dr. von Martens for specimens of the two species collected by him.

## Family Telphusidæ.

## Genus PARATELPHUSA, M.-Edw.

*Conspectus of the Species.*

- Latero-anterior margins of the carapace armed with a single large, acute, conical and salient epibranchial tooth. . . . . *P. spinigera*, W.-M.
- Latero-anterior margins of the carapace armed with two epibranchial teeth. Meropodal joints of all the legs armed at their distal ends with a sharp spine. . . . . *P. tridentata*, M.-Edw.
- Latero-anterior margins of the carapace armed with three epibranchial teeth.  
The first two teeth slightly flattened, the last almost conical and smaller than the rest. Meropodal joints of all the legs armed at their distal ends with a sharp spine. Penultimate somite of ♂ post-abdomen constricted anteriorly so as to form with the preceding an hourglass-shaped mass. . . . . *P. sinensis*, M.-Edw.
- The first tooth similar to the extraorbital angle, but smaller; the rest salient, acute, and conical. Meropodal joints of the legs unarmed. . . . . *P. Martensi*, W.-M.
- Latero-anterior margins of the carapace armed with four epibranchial teeth.  
The teeth feebly developed, flattened, acute, curving forwards and inwards, and diminishing gradually in size from before backwards. The carapace perfectly smooth, longitudinally very convex, its antero-lateral margins much inclined; post-frontal crest well developed. . . . . *P. Dayana*, W.-M.
- The teeth all equal, and similar to one another, large, almost conical, and very salient. Carapace considerably areolated, longitudinally very convex, its antero-lateral margins much inclined; postfrontal crest well developed. . . . . *P. Edwardsi*, W.-M.
- The teeth tolerably well developed, salient, flattened, acute, and diminishing gradually in size from before backwards. Carapace perfectly smooth, depressed, and but slightly convex, its antero-lateral margins hardly inclined. The frontal and orbital margins conspicuously, the edges of the feebly developed postfrontal crest and of the epibranchial teeth faintly crenulated. . . . . *P. crenulifera*, W.-M.

§ I. *Postabdomen of the male with its sides converging from the base of the third to the apex of the fifth somite, thence to its extremity narrow.* (Vide J. A. S. B. 1871, vol. xl. pl. 12. fig. 4.)

1. *Paratelphusa spinigera.*

*Paratelphusa spinigera*, Wood-Mason, J. A. S. B. 1871, vol. xl. part 2, pl. 12. figs. 1-4.

*Telphusa spinigera*, White, List Crust. Brit. Mus. p. 30 (nomen nudum).

*Hab.* Hardwar; Purneah; Jessore District; Calcutta, &c.  
In both fresh and brackish water.

2. *Paratelphusa tridentata.*

*Paratelphusa tridentata*, Milne-Edwards, Arch. du Mus. 1854-55, vol. vii. p. 171, pl. 13. figs. 1, 1 a, 1 b; Ann. des Sci. Nat. 3<sup>e</sup> sér. t. xx. p. 213; Von Martens, Arch. für Naturgesch. 1868, pp. 19 *et seq.*

*Hab.* Java; Sumatra; Borneo. In fresh water.

3. *Paratelphusa sinensis.*

*Paratelphusa sinensis*, Milne-Edwards, *op. cit.* p. 173, figs. 2, 2 a; Von Martens, *op. cit.*

*Hab.* Bangkok and Petshaburi, in Siam (*Von Martens*); Moulmein, Burmah (*Wood-Mason*). In both fresh and brackish water.

§ II. *Postabdomen of the male triangular.* (Vide J. A. S. B. 1871, vol. xl. pl. 11. fig. 5.)

4. *Paratelphusa Martensi*, n. sp., W.-M.

*Hab.* Hardwar; Purneah; Allahabad; Jessore District.  
In fresh water.

5. *Paratelphusa Dayana.*

*Paratelphusa Dayana*, Wood-Mason, J. A. S. B. 1871, vol. xl. p. 192, pl. xi.

*Hab.* Prome and Maundalay, Upper Burmah. In fresh water.

6. *Paratelphusa Edwardsi*, n. sp., W.-M.

*Hab.* Garo, Dafia, and Naga hills; Cachar; Saddya; Harmatti. In fresh water.

7. *Paratelphusa crenulifera*, n. sp., W.-M.

*Hab.* Pegu Yomah. In fresh water.

The species described by me have all been found in localities the fauna of which is largely leavened with Malay forms, both identical and representative.