

*Xestoleberis*, G. O. Sars (1865).

Shell smooth and polished, ornamented with small, round, distant papillæ, or rarely marked with sculptured pittings, much lower in front than behind, and in the female very tumid behind. Hinge-joint formed by a dentated projecting crest of the left, which is received into an excavation of the right valve; ventral margin of both valves incurved in front of the middle, and forming on the ventral surface a central hollow; anterior antennæ six-jointed, the last four joints successively decreasing in length, and bearing very short, simple setæ; posterior antennæ short, four-jointed, flagellum of moderate length. Mandible-palp four-jointed; branchial appendage small, and bearing only two setæ. Jaws as in *Loxoconcha*. Feet small; post-abdominal lobes bearing two setæ. Eyes distinct. Ova and immature young borne within the shell of the female,

This genus is at a glance distinguishable by the generally rounded outline, the depressed and pointed front, and the rounded, tumid posterior end of the shell. It is widely distributed, containing apparently a very large number of species, and occurring abundantly in the seas of all parts of the world. So far, however, as we know of it palæontologically, it would seem to be a genus of comparatively recent development, the only described fossil species which can be unmistakably referred to it—so far as I know—being *Cytherina impressa*, Reuss (a chalk-marl species extremely like in the published figures to the recent European species, *Xestoleberis depressa* and *aurantia*), *Cytheridea tumida*, Egger (= ? *Cytherina tumida*, Reuss), and *Bairdia glutea*, Egger, the last two being Miocene species. Zoologically, the most remarkable character of *Xestoleberis* is its being viviparous; the fry are retained within the shell of the mother until very fully developed: this, perhaps, may account for the great posterior expansion of the female carapace.

1. *Xestoleberis depressa*, G. O. Sars (Pl. XXXI. fig. 1, a-g).

*Xestoleberis depressa*, Sars, Oversigt af Norges marine Ostracoder, p. 68, 1865.

*Xestoleberis depressa*, Brady, Monog. Recent Brit. Ostrac., Trans. Lin. Soc., 1868, p. 438, pl. xxvii. figs. 27-33.

*Xestoleberis depressa*, Brady, Crosskey, and Robertson, Post-Tertiary Entomostraca, p. 190, pl. vii. figs. 13-19.

(?) *Cytherina tumida*, Reuss, Foss. Entom. Oesterr. Tert., Beckens, p. 57, pl. viii. fig. 29, 1850.

(?) *Cytheridea tumida*, Egger, Ostrak. Miocän-Schicht, Ortenburg, p. 17, pl. ii. fig. 11.

Carapace of the female tumid; seen from the side, oblong, sub-semicircular, highest near the middle, height equal to more than half the length; subacutely pointed in front, broadly rounded behind, dorsal margin boldly arched and forming one continuous curve from the anterior to the posterior ends of the ventral margin, which is straight, except for a slight sinuation in front of the middle. Seen from above, the outline is cordate, pointed in front and broad behind, width equal to two-thirds of the length; end view depressed, broad below and boldly arched above, width greater than the height. Surface of the shell smooth, iridescent, marked with numerous small circular papillæ. The shell