

[Pl. XXXV. fig. 2, *a-d*. *a* Carapace seen from left side, *b* from above, *c* from below, *d* from front. Magnified 60 diameters.]

*Paradoxostoma*, Fischer.

*Paradoxostoma*, Fischer, Abhandl. d. Kgl. bayerischen Akad. d. Wissenschaften, Bd. vii. (1855).

Shell thin and fragile, smooth, shining, and having no definite structure; valves subequal, mostly much higher behind than in front, usually elongate-ovate. Muscle-spots as in *Sclerochilus*. Hingement simple; ventral margins emarginate in front, so that when the valves are closed there is still an elongated orifice through which the suctorial mouth can be protruded. Anterior antennæ extremely slender, six-jointed, and armed with short setæ; posterior shorter and more robust, five-jointed; flagellum large, and almost as thick as the antenna itself. Poison-glands large, and mostly lobulated. Mouth suctorial. Labrum and labium forming together a large and stout subconical process projecting downwards, and terminating in a disk, with elevated margins, in the middle of which is the orifice of the mouth. Mandibles very slender, protractile, styliform, subulate at the apex; palp very slender and elongated, indistinctly jointed, and without a branchial appendage. Terminal lobes of the first pair of jaws very narrow, branchial plate elongate-ovate, and bearing at the base two deflexed setæ. Feet short and robust, last joint elongated, and bearing a very short, curved, terminal claw; basal joint of the first pair armed at the apex with a single strong spine. Postabdominal lobes bearing two short hairs. One eye.

Not many examples of this genus have been found in the Challenger dredgings, nor is this to be wondered at, seeing that, in the British Seas at any rate, its members haunt almost exclusively the littoral and laminarian zones. Fourteen recent British species are known to us, and Sars has described seven from Norway, some of which are identical with British species; eight species (two of which are rather dubious) have been recognised in the British Post-Tertiary formations; but from other parts of the world we have no record of the occurrence of the genus, except in Dr Fischer's memoir, where one species only (*Paradoxostoma dispar*) is described. The foreign gatherings which have hitherto been described are exclusively from deep water; when littoral gatherings come to be examined, there can be no doubt that we shall have numerous examples of *Paradoxostoma*. We may, indeed, expect, considering the beautifully marked shells of many northern species, that among the sea-weed beds of the tropics wonderfully coloured species may possibly abound; the colouring of the shells of Ostracoda seeming to depend very largely upon that of the plants amongst which they live, and on which, in all probability, some of them, and especially *Paradoxostoma*, feed.

It is not a little remarkable that one of the two species described in this monograph (*Paradoxostoma ensiforme*) is from a European dredging, and is a well known European