

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW HERMIT CRAB (*CALCINUS IMPERIALIS*), FROM LORD HOWE ISLAND.

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(Plate ix.)

THIS fine handsome species is fairly common at Lord Howe Island. It is generally found at or about low tide line, inhabiting the shells of *Turbo imperialis*, Gmelin. Numerous examples were obtained during the visit of Mr. R. Etheridge, Junr., Mr. J. A. Thorpe, and the writer, in 1887. These specimens appeared in the report on "Lord Howe Island: Its Zoology and Physical Characters,"¹ under the name of *Calcinus elegans*, Milne-Edwards, the error arising from a comparison with a wrongly named example in the collection. Since 1887 many specimens have been received from the same region, and about three years ago I obtained a living specimen at Maroubra Bay, near Sydney. During the visit of the "Thetis" to Lord Howe Island in March, 1898, Messrs. Etheridge and Waite secured six examples, two of which are selected for illustration and description.

Owing to the difficulty of adequately representing Crustacea by means of drawings, it was determined to reproduce the *Calcinus* by the colotype process. I took the photographs, and avoided shadows by mounting the crabs on a sheet of clear glass, placing a piece of opal glass some distance behind it. A little adjustment of the two sheets to the source of light threw the reflected shadows quite out of the field.

The reproduction and printing by Messrs. Morgan and Kidd, of London, leave nothing to be desired.

CALCINUS IMPERIALIS, *sp. nov.*(Pl. ix., figs. 1 - 2*d.*)

Anterior region of carapace strongly calcified, convex, smooth and closely punctate, with a few scattered setæ arising from shallow pits. There is a well marked Y shaped impression, the base of which reaches to the cervical groove, and the apices are bounded on each side by a short oblong depression. The front has a slightly thickened border, which extends on each side of the well-defined rostral process to a point between the insertion

¹ Austr. Mus. Mem., ii., 1889, p. 36.