

OCCASIONAL NOTES ON AUSTRALIAN AMPHIPODA.

By

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(Figures 1-5.)

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During the last few years I have received from the Australian Museum and from other sources numerous specimens of Australian Amphipoda. The examination of these has brought to light many facts which seem worthy of publication, and it is proposed to give these in a series of papers as opportunity offers. In submitting the first of these papers I desire to express my grateful thanks to Dr. C. Anderson, Director of the Australian Museum, to Mr. Charles Hedley and to several members of the staff for the opportunity of examining and describing many of the species dealt with.

No. 1.

A NEW AUSTRALIAN SPECIES OF *Niphargus*.

In 1893 Mr. G. M. Thomson described two species of *Niphargus* from the fresh waters of Tasmania, viz., *N. montanus* and *N. mortoni*. The latter species is retained under the genus *Niphargus* by Stebbing in 1910, but the former is placed under *Neoniphargus* Stebbing to which Stebbing also assigns two species described by Sayce, viz.: *N. spenceri* and *N. fultoni*. Another species described by Sayce, *N. pulchellus* is also kept under *Niphargus* by Stebbing, and placed next to *N. mortoni*. The relationships of these species to one another and to the species of *Gammarus* described from Australia by Sayce and Geoffrey Smith will afford interesting work for future students of the Amphipoda.

In the meantime I am describing another new species of *Niphargus*. It differs considerably from those mentioned above, and comes close to species recently described from Chilka Lake, India, and from the Philippine Islands. These three species differ from the characters of *Niphargus* in one or two important characters and appear to belong to a special section of the genus which will probably have to be made into a separate genus. At present, however, I leave them under *Niphargus* as a matter of convenience. The following specific diagnosis may be given:—