

BRACHYURAN CRABS FROM AUSTRALIA AND NEW GUINEA.

By

Dr. MARY J. RATHBUN, Associate in Zoology, United States
National Museum.

(Plates xiv.-xvi.)

A small collection of Australian crabs has recently been received at the United States National Museum from Mr. Melbourne Ward of Sydney. It includes a new species of *Cleistostoma* and specimens of four known species.

About the same time the Australian Museum sent for examination specimens of two species of river crabs from New Guinea, which appear to be new. These were collected by Mr. E. A. Briggs, M.Sc., while engaged on zoological work for the University of Sydney, on the north-east coast of the Mandated Territory of that island. The collecting base was near the headwaters of a small stream, the Wakip River, which enters the sea close to Cape Djeruen, 50 miles south-east of Aitape.

Examples of two already known species (listed below) were also represented in the small collection brought back by Mr. Briggs.

The known species (from both sources) with their localities are as follows:

Ozius truncatus Milne Edwards. Port Adelaide, South Australia; under stones between tides on sand.

Ocypode cordimana Desmarest. Sandgate, Queensland; on sand hills at back of shore and above high water mark.

Uca marionis (Desmarest), var. *vomeris* McNeill. Mouth of Brisbane River, Queensland; on mud flats.

Euplax tridentata (A. Milne Edwards). Mouth of Brisbane River, Queensland; on mud flat, among mangroves.

Varuna litterata (Fabricius). Under stones in bed of Wakip River, north coast New Guinea, close to its source; water fresh and flowing. Species common.

Macrobrachium placidulus (de Man). Wakip River, north coast New Guinea. Occurred in rocky pools in the bed of the river two miles inland from the sea coast. At time of collecting the stream was a disconnected line of similar pools in many places, which contained pure drinking water. Only one specimen was secured, but the collector states that the species was common in occurrence.

The writer is indebted to Mr. Frank A. McNeill for the privilege of describing the two new species from New Guinea.