

and defended ; but in this respect they seem to invert the order of nature ; for as fish have their bones in the inside, and their muscles hung upon them for the purposes of life and motion—these crustaceous animals, on the contrary, have their bony parts on the outside, and all their muscles within ; their shell is not quite of a stony hardness, but rather resembles a firm crust, and in some measure capable of yielding. They seem to hold a middle rank between the former kind of animals we have been describing, and those snail-like creatures that properly receive the name of *testaceous fish*.

The generic characters of the crab are these ; they have eight legs (seldom ten or six) besides the two large claws which serve for the purpose of hands. They have two eyes at a considerable distance from each other, and for the most part supported by a kind of pedunculi, or footstalks ; the eyes are likewise elongated and moveable ; they have two clawed palpi, and the tail is jointed. Their genus includes the lobster, shrimp, &c. There are no less than eighty-seven species of cancer, distinguished principally by the length of their tails and the margins of their breasts. The following are the most remarkable.

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