

if, by accident, they are torn off; and it is certain they will grow again in a few weeks, though they never attain to the size of the first. They are voracious animals, and feed on seaweeds, garbage, and all sorts of dead bodies. The pincers of one of the lobster's large claws are furnished with knobs, and those of the other are always serrated. With the former it keeps firm hold of the stalks of submarine plants, and with the latter it cuts and minces its food very dexterously. The knobbed, or *numb* claw, as the fishermen call it, is sometimes on the right, and sometimes on the left side indifferently. It is more dangerous to be seized by them with the cutting claw than the other; but, in either case, the quickest way to get disengaged from the creature is to pull off its claw. The female, or *hen-lobster* does not cast her shell the same year that she deposits her *ova*, or, in the common phrase, is in *berry*. When the *ova* first appear under her tail, they are small, and extremely black; but they come in succession almost as large as ripe elder-berries before they are deposited, and turn of a dark brown colour, especially towards the end of the time of her depositing them. They continue full, and depositing the *ova* in constant succession, as long as

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