

genera which approach more nearly to the higher organized crustaceans. The Crab and Lobster tribes are represented by certain species in the Lias, Oolite, and Chalk; while in many of the Tertiary strata, the existing types prevail.

The London Clay, in the Isle of Sheppey, yields many beautiful examples of the higher order of crustaceans, as the Crab, Lobster, &c. In the Chalk these remains are more rare, but a few fine specimens have been obtained. On the Continent, certain localities are extremely rich in these remains. Upwards of sixty species were discovered by Count Munster, in the Jura limestone, at Solenhofen; and the Muschelkalk of Germany has yielded several extinct genera. The beautiful state in which these fossils occur, is exemplified in the specimen from Solenhofen, figured in the frontispiece of this work; Pl. I. fig. 2.

FOSSIL CRABS.—Of the *brachyurous*, or short-tailed, crustaceans, of which the common Crab is an example, there are the remains of several genera in the Tertiary deposits. The Isle of Sheppey is the most productive locality in England.\* The carapaces of several kinds of Cancer or Crab, occur in the septaria and nodules of indurated clay; the chelate (*pincer-claws*) hand-claws are often found

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\* Mr. Parkinson states that upwards of thirty species of crustaceans have been found in this locality.