

GIGANTIC CRUSTACEAN of the Devonian system.*—In the Old Red sandstone of Forfarshire, and other parts of Scotland, the remains of a very remarkable crustacean, allied to the *Eurypterus* (see p. 541.), have been long known to the quarrymen by the name of “*petrified Seraphims*,” from an imaginary resemblance of the expanded post-abdomen, to the usual representations of those angelic beings! As the specimens found in Forfarshire were, for the most part, mere scaly impressions on the stone, the nature of the original could not be determined. But many illustrative examples have been discovered at Balruddery, by Mr. Hugh Miller, and submitted to the examination of M. Agassiz, who has ascertained that they are the relics of huge crustaceans, bearing a close analogy to those found in the carboniferous strata at Burdie-house (see p. 542.). This crustacean is characterised by its angular carapace, which forms a lozenge-shaped shield; and the appendage of the post-abdomen, which, instead of being divided into segments, as in most animals of this class, is a continuous flap. The claws resemble those of the common lobster. The crustaceous covering, or shell, is ornamented on the surface with circular and elliptical markings, producing an imbricated or scaly appearance; and the imprints of this structure gave rise to the enigmatical fossils found in the sandstone of Forfarshire. Some specimens indicate a total length of four feet! †

* By an inadvertence, this notice was omitted to be inserted in p. 542.

† New Walks in an Old Field, by Hugh Miller, Esq., p. 147.