

No. XV.

Description of a New Species of the Genus Astacus. By R.
Harlan, M.D. &c. Read April 3d, 1829.

A. BLANDINGII.

Rostrum mucronate, canaliculate, slightly notched at the extremity: a spine behind each eye; arms tuberculated; fingers unequal.

Inhabits the southern states, where it is common in the marshes and rivulets.

Cabinet of the Academy of Natural Sciences. Presented by Dr W. Blanding, Camden, S. C.

Description.—The hands and arms, and sides of the body tuberculated; conspicuously large on the hands: thorax with a small spine on the side, behind the transverse arcuated band; first and second joints of the peduncles of the exterior antennæ furnished with each a single spine: rostrum elongated, angular, attenuated anteriorly, and obsoletely notched near the extremity, extending nearly to the tip of the third joint of the peduncle of the exterior antenna, carinated on each side of the base, and terminating in a post-ocular spine: anterior feet, third joint very long, with a double longitudinal series of spines beneath: carpus four-spined; spines irregularly distributed about the anterior margin: hands long, tuberculated throughout; fingers elongated, slightly curved

inwards, the innermost the longest, terminating in a small spine opposed to the thumb: caudal lamellæ ciliated, lateral segments with an elevated longitudinal spine; the penultimate and antepenultimate legs of the male furnished with an obtuse apophysis at the base of the second joint.

Dimensions.—Length from the tip of the rostrum to the tip of the tail, three inches eight-tenths; breadth of the thorax one inch; length of the anterior feet nearly four inches; length of the hand and finger nearly equal.

The present species, in size and markings, is most nearly allied to the *A. affinis* of Say; but differs in the form of the rostrum, in the proportional length of the arms; in being furnished in the male with an apophysis on the third joint of both the penultimate and antepenultimate legs; in the disposition of the spines; and in being tuberculated. The present species will bear no comparison with the *A. Bartonii*, with which, nevertheless, Mr Say appears to have confounded it, when he assures us that the last mentioned species are “extremely common in the pine barren marshes of the southern states, and particularly in those of Georgia and Florida.” (Vid. Journal of the Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila. Vol. I. p. 443.)

All the crawfish, which I have seen from the southern states, (and I have received specimens from New Orleans and South Carolina) are of the same species with that now described.