DECAPODS.

we find that the first pair of thoracic legs is taken from that function, and made auxiliary to the organs of the mouth.

Leaving the Isopods, if we go to the Decapods, amongst those with a long tail,* which, from their cylindrical form and other circumstances, are nearer to the Chilognathan Myriapods than to the Chilopodan, taking the lobster for our type, we find the organs analogous to the six legs of Hexapods, exhibiting a new character: for from the outer side of their basal joint issues an organ which is peculiar to these legs. The organ I allude to is called, by M. Savigny, a flagrum or whip; and, by M. Latreille, a flagelliform palpus or feeler; it usually consists of two parts, an elongated exarticulate base, representing the handle of the whip; and an annulated or jointed part generally forming an angle with it, representing the lash : the mandibles also have feelers of the usual structure. The organs above alluded to show that all the representatives of the legs of Hexapods in the lobster, are converted to a new function-whether precisely analogous to that of feelers is not clear.

In the lobster the basal joints of the first pair of maxillary legs are dilated, and the whole organ may be regarded as maxilliform; but in the second it is palpiform, and in the third it resumes the joints and appearance of a crustaceous leg, and is densely ciliated, which seems to indicate that it is used in swimming.

In the common crab,[†] amongst the short-tail Decapods,[‡] the legs in question seem all taken from locomotion, and the second pair does not differ from those of the lobster; but the last, though consisting of the same number of joints, is very different, the two intermediate joints being dilated, and the two legs together forming as it were a pair of folding-doors, which close the mouth externally, the three last joints resembling those of the legs. These

Macrouri.
† Cancer Pagurus.

‡ Brachyuri.