

*lus Poly-phe-mus*. It seems to be essentially a wide basin with a small and spike-like handle. It is in fact employed by the fisherman for removing water from his boat. The same objects are strewn along the beach all the way to Charleston. A few years ago, Professor A. S. Packard determined to make the acquaintance of the King Crab family and study his pedigree. He found very few printed documents on this strange subject, and he therefore betook himself to a method of investigation at which you will certainly be amused. He studied the King Crab's eggs. He studied them seriously and thoroughly by the aid of microscopes. More strictly speaking, he studied the progressive development of the embryo within the egg. He believed—for many others so believe—that the several embryonic stages are pictures of the ancestors of the animal. He believed that the first trace of an embryonic form would be a picture of the remotest ancestor—either in its embryonic or adult stage; and that the phases presented by the later stages of the embryo would be pictures of later ancestors. I will tell you what he found out, and you may believe that it means what he says it does, or you may find out a more probable meaning.

Professor Packard discovered that the earlier embryo of the King Crab shows a striking resemblance to the early stages of soft-shelled shrimps and low fresh water crustaceans now living; and that in a later stage, the embryo of the King Crab was strikingly like certain *Tril'obites* found fossil in the Cambrian strata. There are at least three genera of such Trilobites—*Ag-nos'-tus* and *Sa'-o* from the bottom of the Cambrian, and *Tri-nu'-cle-us* from the Upper Cambrian. Now, the meaning of this is, according to some, that our King Crab is descended from the same primeval stock as these trilobites; and that all the trilobites were descended from that stock. This, in fact, means evolution, and,—we might as well say it at once,—that it means all the crustacea have descended from the same primitive stock. It is supposed that primitive crustacean lived *before* Cambrian time. On this subject I do not wish to say any more at present; but before we finish these