

Fig. 138, being that of a mandible, with its feeler, or palpus; Figures 139, 140, and 141, representing the first, second, and third pairs of feet-jaws; and Fig. 142, the first pair of true feet. It would thus seem as if the same constituent element of the fabric is converted by nature into the one or other of these organs, according as best suits the exigencies of each particular case.*

In the lobster, the crab, and many other crustacea, the foremost pair of true feet are also modified to suit a particular purpose; the pincers which terminate them being expanded into a claw, and constituting a powerful organ of prehension, and a formidable weapon of offence. It resembles a finger and thumb in its power of grasping and strongly compressing any object on which it seizes; and, to enable it to do this with more effect, the inner edges of both parts of the claw are notched or serrated.

The large portion of shell which is consolidated into one piece, and covers the upper part of the body, is termed the shield, or *carapace*. The tail of the crab is very short, and is united with the body, appearing as if it had been folded under it. The feet-jaws are particularly large, but short: the articulations of the feet are such as to allow of scarcely any motion but in a transverse plane. This is the cause of the greater facility the crab finds in walking side-ways, which it can do with great quickness when urged by a sense of danger. The lobster, on the contrary, is better formed for swimming than for walking. The hinder part of its body is divided into segments, which play upon each other by a remarkable kind of mechanism, the margins of each portion overlapping the succeeding segment, and partly enclosing it. The tail is the principal agent used in swimming, and the whole force of the muscles is bestowed upon its movements. As it strikes the water from behind for-

* The labours of Savigny, Audouin and Latreille appear to have established a complete analogy in the respective component parts, not only of the feet, feet-jaws, jaws and mandibles, but also of the palpi and other appendices attached to the head, in all the articulated animals, whether belonging to the classes of arachnida, crustacea, myriapoda, or winged insects.