

Detailed comparison of Miers's (1886: 9, Pl. 1, fig. 3) description of *A. tenuicollis* with the specimens of *A. fissifrons* reveals only the following major differences: in *A. tenuicollis* the postorbital "neck" is slightly narrower, a prominent tubercle is not described on the anterior surface of the eyestalk though dorsal and ventral spinules are mentioned, there is only a single postorbital spinule and finally the posterolateral angle of the basal antennal article bears a strong acute spine. In other features, including spinulation of the third maxillipeds and shape of the last abdominal segment, the two species appear to agree completely. Examination of the numerous species mentioned above and previously identified as Miers's species shows that while they may certainly be referred to Haswell's species, there is some considerable variation in all the features mentioned as separating the two, the width of the carapace behind the orbit being exactly as in Miers's (1886: fig. 3) figure in some specimens while in others it is as illustrated in the present account (Fig. 8). Further, some of the specimens show a reduction in size of the postorbital spinules, so that only one may appear to be present. The disposition of the smaller tubercles of the carapace in *A. tenuicollis* (according to Miers, 1886: fig. 3) disagrees slightly with that noted in the present account, but Miers's figures are not consistent concerning this feature, so that too much reliance cannot be placed on such a difference. The lectotype of *A. tenuicollis* has kindly been checked for us by Dr Isabella Gordon (British Museum (Natural History), London) who states that it agrees quite well with the present material. In the lectotype of Miers's species the large tubercle on the anterior surface of the eyestalk is not visible in dorsal view but appears as soon as the specimen is tilted backward. The abdomen has a small tubercle on the second segment and the tubercles on the fourth and fifth segments are quite large, that on the fifth being quite a large rounded boss occupying most of the length of the segment.

During the course of the description of *A. elongatus*, Sakai (1938: 223) mentions a few differences which separate his species from *A. tenuicollis*. The basis for the differences stated by Sakai resides in material of the latter species sent from the Australian Museum. Examination of the remainder of this series shows that the two species can no longer be regarded as separate. Sakai (fig. 13a) shows the cardiac region surmounted by three spinules (two submedial followed by one medial (intestinal in this account)), and states that while *A. elongatus* has the dactyli of the third and fourth ambulatory legs ventrally spinulated for the entire length, in *A. tenuicollis* there are only two teeth ventrally situated near the tip of the dactyl. The whole series available to us has been examined in detail to determine the amount of variation existing in this last character. In all specimens the last two teeth on the dactyl of the fourth ambulatory are well-developed, more so than any of the others. However, as far as these other spinules are concerned there is some considerable variation, as noted above. Thus, some actually do lack all spinules except the terminal two. Moreover, in the series from which the material sent to Sakai was taken, smaller proximal spinules are present in nearly all specimens. In some of the other specimens in which smaller spinules in addition to the large distal two were present they were somewhat concealed by numerous short setae. The two small spinules on the cardiac region shown in Sakai's (1938: fig. 13a) figure are also shown in Miers's figure of *A. tenuicollis* and are present in several of the specimens available to us while others possess a single rounded tubercle on the cardiac region. Lastly there is some variation in the number of spinules of the basal antennal article so that although this appears more spinous in the figure given by Sakai of *A. elongatus* than in the material illustrated here, such a difference is not important. We therefore consider that there can be no doubt that *Achaeus elongatus* Sakai and *A. tenuicollis* Miers are conspecific with each other and with *A. fissifrons* (Haswell).