

currence of the species farther south than Salem, though from the external resemblance of the male and the young to *Pseudopleuronectes americanus*, it might easily be overlooked. "Christmas-fish" is another name for the smooth plaice at Salem.

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM, December 31, 1878.

THE IDENTITY OF RHINONEMUS CAUDACUTA (STORER) GILL WITH GADUS CIMBRIUS, LINN.

By G. BROWN GOODE and TARLETON H. BEAN.

In 1848, Dr. David Humphreys Storer described a gadoid fish from Massachusetts Bay, to which he gave the name *Motella caudacuta*.* In 1863, a special genus, *Rhinonemus*,† was framed for it by Professor Gill, and the species has since been called *Rhinonemus caudacuta* (Storer) Gill. After a critical examination of European and American specimens, we are convinced that this species is separated by no valid characters from that described by Linnæus under the name *Gadus cimbrius*.‡ A specimen of the latter in the National Museum from Christiania, Norway (No. 10058, R. Collett), agrees precisely with specimens of *R. caudacuta*, so-called, from Massachusetts Bay (collected in 1877 and 1878 by the U. S. Fish Commission), in proportions of body and fins, shape of head, numbers of fin-rays, and coloration. The radial formula is misstated by Storer, who gives it D. 53, A. 48, and this evidently misled Professor Gill, who noted that *Rhinonemus caudacuta* was "very closely related to the *Motella cimbria* of Europe," but who evidently had at the time of naming the genus never seen a specimen of the species from either side of the Atlantic. Storer's description of color, cited by Gill as separating his species from that of Linnæus, applies very well to the latter: "the posterior margin of the second dorsal and anal fins, as well as the edge of the caudal fin of a dark slate color."

The radial formulæ of four specimens studied stand as follows:

10058	(Christiania).	D. 50.	A. 44.	P. 16.	V. 5.
21918	(Massachusetts Bay).	D. 49.	A. 43.	P. 16.	V. 5.
21919	(Massachusetts Bay).	D. 51.	A. 44.	P. 16.	V. 5.
21919 a	(Massachusetts Bay).	D. 52.	A. 45.	P. 16.	V. 5.

The genus *Motella* was not proposed in proper form until the publication of the second edition of Cuvier's Règne Animal in 1829, although in its French form—*Les Mustèles*—it was applied by Cuvier to the genus in 1817. The name of Risso, published in his "Europe Meridionale" in 1827, must therefore be used as Professor Gill has indicated.§

* Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist. iii, 1848, p. 5.

† Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila. 1863 (Sept.), p. 230.

‡ Systema Naturæ, ed. 12, 1766, p. 440.

§ L. c. p. 241.

The sole character which separates *Rhinonemus* from *Onos* is the presence of a nasal cirrus, a character to which we are unwilling to allow more than a subgeneric value. We believe that the species should be called *Onos cimbricus* (Linn.), but are willing to accept provisionally the name *Rhinonemus cimbricus*. We have examined numerous specimens which purported to belong to *Ciliata argentata* (Reinh.) Gill, and have found them in every case to be the young of this species, for small individuals of *R. cimbricus* are found swimming at the surface, although the adult fishes inhabit only the deeper parts of Massachusetts Bay. English ichthyologists now regard *Ciliata* as the larval form of "Motella," and if this be not the case, we doubt if this genus has ever been observed in the Western Atlantic. The National Museum has specimens of *Onos mustela* (Linn.), *Onos tricirratus* (Bloch), and *Onos maculatus* (Risso); the specific individuality of the latter two seems very doubtful, as well as that they are distinct from *Onos ensis* (Reinh.) Gill, described from the coast of Greenland.

The synonymy of *Onos cimbricus* is given below.

Onos (Rhinonemus) cimbricus (Linnæus) Goode & Bean.

Gadus cimbricus, LINNÆUS, Syst. Nat. ed. xii, 1766, p. 440.—LACÉPÈDE, Hist. Nat. Poiss. ii, 1801, p. 442.

Motella cimbrica, BELL, Canadian Naturalist and Geologist, iv, 1859, p. 209.—GÜNTHER, Cat. Fishes Brit. Mus. iv, 1862, p. 367.—GILL, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila. 1863, p. 241.

Enchlyopus cimbricus, SCHNEIDER, Bloch's Systema Ichthyologiæ, 1801, p. 50, pl. ix.

Motella cimbrica, NILSSON, Prodr. Ichth. Scand. p. 48; Skand. Fauna, iv, 1855, p. 587.—YARRELL, Hist. Brit. Fishes, 2d ed. 1841, ii, p. 274.

Motella caudacuta, STORER, Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist. iii, 1848, p. 5; Mem. Amer. Acad. Sci. 1867, p. 411; Hist. Fishes Mass. 1867, p. 183.

Rhinonemus caudacuta, GILL, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila. 1863, p. 241; Cat. Fishes E. Coast N. Am. 1873, p. 18.—GOODE & BEAN, Am. Journ. Sci. and Arts, xiv, Dec. 1877, p. 476.

WASHINGTON, December 31, 1878.

CATALOGUE OF THE BIRDS COLLECTED IN MARTINIQUE BY MR. FRED. A. OBER FOR THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

By GEORGE N. LAWRENCE.

After completing the exploration of Grenada, Mr. Ober left there the fore part of April and visited the island of Tobago, where he remained for more than two months, and did not arrive in Martinique until the beginning of July, remaining there until the latter part of August. His collection was made "from July 9th to August 20th." It consists of ninety-one specimens.

He gives an interesting account of the island, which, with his other observations, are indicated by quotation-marks.