

## NOTE ON THE GENERA OF PETROMYZONTIDÆ.

By DAVID S. JORDAN and CHARLES H. GILBERT.

In the Proceedings of the National Museum for 1882, p. 521, is a review of the genera of Lampreys, by Dr. Gill. In the analysis of the genera several characters not hitherto recognized have been noticed, and the paper is a substantial addition to our knowledge of these animals. The characters drawn from the dentition of the supraoral lamina are, however, unreliable for the distinction of genera. Thus in *Petromyzon* and *Ammocætes* this lamina is said to be bicuspid, while in *Ichthyomyzon* and *Entosphenus* it is described as tricuspoid. In *Petromyzon* and *Entosphenus*, so far as we have noticed, the description given by Professor Gill fully applies. In *Ichthyomyzon* the supraoral lamina is bicuspid in the common species, *I. argenteus*, but tricuspoid in *I. castaneus* and *I. hirudo*, species not generically distinct from *I. argenteus*, and whose specific validity, indeed, may be questioned. *Ammocætes* usually has a broad supraoral lamina, with a tooth at each end, but very often, at least in our common species *A. niger*, there is also a median cusp, as in *Entosphenus*. We have no doubt that *Ammocætes* (as understood by Dr. Gill) should be generically separated from *Petromyzon*. The characters of *Ichthyomyzon* and of *Entosphenus* are, however, of less importance. The teeth of *Ichthyomyzon* are all essentially as in *Petromyzon*, but proportionately smaller, weaker, and with less developed points and serræ. The same is nearly true of the teeth of *Ammocætes* in comparison with those of *Entosphenus*. *Petromyzon* and *Entosphenus* are large marine species, ascending fresh waters only to spawn (or occasionally land-locked), while *Ichthyomyzon* and *Ammocætes* are their respective fresh-water representatives, smaller, weaker, and less specialized. Convenience is probably best served by recognizing all four groups as genera.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY, April 8, 1883.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW MURENOID EEL (*SIDERA CHLEVASTES*)  
FROM THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS.

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*Sidera chlevastes* sp. nov. (20385).

Body little elongate, strongly compressed. Head rather small, somewhat compressed. Teeth rather strong, most of them slender and sharp; their edges entire. Teeth of lower jaw uniserial, directed strongly backwards, close set, slightly increasing in size posteriorly; about 14 on each side.

Teeth of upper jaw biserial, for most of its length; the teeth of the