

*ticulatus*, Risso. The later name, *Gobiesox nuvandricus*, (Girard) should therefore be used instead of *Gobiesox reticulatus*.

5. *Cyprinus americanus*, Linnaeus, in the Tenth Edition of the *Systema Naturæ* is a *Menticirrus*, while the species of the same name in the Twelfth Edition is a *Notemigonus*. The name *Notemigonus americanus*, based on the latter, should thus give way to *Notemigonus bosci*, (Cuv. & Val.), or better *Notemigonus chrysoleucus bosci*.

6. *Catostomus carpio*, Rafinesque, an *Ictiobus*, has priority over *C. carpio*, Cuv. & Val., a *Moxostoma*. The latter species having no synonyms, may receive the new name of *Moxostoma valenciennesi* instead of *Moxostoma carpio*.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY, March 4, 1885.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF PLECTROMUS (P. CRASSICEPS) TAKEN BY THE UNITED STATES FISH COMMISSION.

By TABLETON H. BEAN.

Curator of the Department of Fishes.

Of this new species a single example, number 33553, was obtained in the greatest depth explored by the Albatross (2,949 fathoms); it is only 48 millimeters long, and in very bad condition. Fortunately the same vessel took three larger and better preserved individuals of the same species, which are numbered 33378, 33509, and 34835, respectively; these are from stations 2075, 2094, and 2106, the depths being 855, 1,022, and 1,497 fathoms. The large examples are made the basis of the description which follows:

PLECTROMUS CRASSICEPS: n. s.

33378. 1 specimen; latitude  $41^{\circ} 40' 30''$  N.; longitude  $65^{\circ} 35'$  W.; September 3, 1883.  
 33509. 1 specimen; latitude  $39^{\circ} 44' 30''$  N.; longitude  $71^{\circ} 04'$  W.; September 21, 1883.  
 34835. 1 specimen; latitude  $37^{\circ} 41' 20''$  N.; longitude  $73^{\circ} 03' 20''$  W.; Nov. 6, 1883.

The species resembles *Melanphaës megalops*, Lütken, from which it differs in having a much smaller eye, larger scales, and shorter ventrals. (Dr. Lütken's species, which he referred only after much hesitation to *Melanphaës*, is, in all probability, congeneric with *Plectromus suborbitalis*, Gill.) The length of the head equals  $\frac{1}{3}$ , and the height of the body  $\frac{2}{7}$  of the total length without caudal. The eye is about  $\frac{2}{5}$  as long as the head. The maxilla extends to, or slightly beyond, the vertical through the hind margin of the eye. The pectoral is as long as the head and more than twice as long as the ventral, which does not quite reach to the vent. The scales are large and mostly wanting in the typical examples; there are about 25 rows in a longitudinal series. D. ii, 11-12; A. i, 8-9; V. 8; P. 15.

The specimens are uniformly dark (nearly black) in spirits, except on the fins, which are somewhat lighter at the margins.

The genus *Plectromus*, Gill (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., VI, 257) is not sufficiently distinguished, in the description, from *Melamphaës*, Günther; but its smaller number of spines may prove constant and will enable us to separate the two with certainty. The dentition also, concerning which there is some doubt, may be different in *Melamphaës*.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF ASPIDOPHOROIDES (A. GÜNTHERII), FROM ALASKA.

By TABLETON H. BEAN,

Curator of the Department of Fishes.

Capt. M. A. Healy's collection, made during the cruise of the United States revenue cutter Thomas Corwin, 1884, contains four specimens of this new species, the largest of which is 53 millimeters ( $2\frac{1}{10}$  inches) in length. Lieut. G. M. Stoney also obtained a specimen, and as his is larger than any of the others I will make it the type of the description.

The type of the species here described is an example 70 millimeters long (Cat. No. 37032).

This fish does not bear much resemblance to *monopterygius* and *inermis*. The body is very short and is anteriorly very wide and somewhat depressed. The head also is short, triangular, and posteriorly wide. There is also a short barbel at the end of each maxilla. The nasal spines are almost invisible. There are small teeth in the jaws, vomer, and palatines. Along the sides of the head inferiorly are four large mucous pores, each situated in an oblong depression, the largest of which is nearly as long as the snout. The maxillary barbel is scarcely one-half as long as the eye, which is one-third the length of the head and considerably more than the width of the interorbital space. The maxilla does not extend much beyond the anterior margin of the orbit. The mandible is barely included; its length equals that of the eye. The length of the snout equals the width of the interorbital space, which is deeply concave. The greatest depth of the head is not much more than one-half its greatest width. The greatest width of the head over the opercles is contained nearly five times in the total length without caudal, and twice in the distance from the origin of the dorsal to the base of the caudal. The gill-membrane is narrowly attached to the isthmus anteriorly, but the posterior margin is free and the gill-opening is wide. Pseudobranchiæ well developed. There is a deep groove extending from the occiput and including about the anterior third of the body. The greatest height of the body is one-sixth of the length without caudal, and the width over the basis of the pectorals is about one-fifth of the same length. The length of the head is contained about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  times in the total length without caudal. The pectoral is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times as long as the ventral and one-fourth of the total length without caudal. The ventral is as