ing darker upward; upper third, except the extreme tip, clear light rufous; extreme tip very dark brown or blackish. The colors of a spine from the same region are similar, but the rufous ring and terminal blackish area occupy together only the upper fifth of the spine. On the shoulders the general arrangement of colors is the same, but the majority of the spines are gray throughout, light at the base and dark at the tip, and the subterminal ring of the hairs is naples yellow instead of rufous.

The under surface of the body is clothed with rather harsh, mostly flattened, hairs, which are of a very pale grayish color throughout their lower half and very light opaque yellowish-white above. The upper surfaces of the hands and feet have the color of the shoulders.

The tail is sparsely clothed with flattened, lustrous, faintly-brownish hairs about a half inch in length, which do not obscure the scales.

	Inches.
Length of head and body	9.9
Length of tail	8.0
Length of hind foot (without claws)	1.5
Length of fore foot	.8
Height of ear-conch	.4

The occurrence of this South American form in the island of Martinique is an interesting but not unparalleled fact. The venomous Lancehead serpent (*Bothrops lanceolatum*), indigenous to South America, is also found in considerable abundance in Martinique and some of the adjacent islands. The absence of any allusions to the occurrence of the Strong-spined Loncheres in the Carribees would seem to indicate that the species has been recently introduced. It is probable that a considerable number of species of the smaller South American rodents are brought over to the islands from time to time by sailing vessels and otherwise, which, being unable to breed, live out their natural term and then disappear.

Mr. Ober procured but a single specimen of the rodent under consideration, and there is nothing in his book upon the Carribees, or upon the label, indicating that the species is at all common in Martinique.

DECEMBER 19, 1884.

NOTES ON FISHES COLLECTED AT SAN CRISTOBAL, LOWER CALIFORNIA, BY MR. CHARLES H. TOWNSEND, ASSISTANT, U. S. FISH COMMISSION.

By ROSA SMITH.

1. Rupiscartes* atlanticus Cuv. & Val. (No. 36946.)

Head, 4 (5 in total); depth, $4\frac{1}{2}$ ($5\frac{1}{2}$). D. XII, 22; A. II, 23.

Body rather slender, gradually tapering backward from the head. Head not very broad; its greatest breadth $1\frac{1}{2}$ in greatest depth; profile

* Following a suggestion of Professor Jordan, I use the name *Rupiscartes* of Swainson for the species of *Salarias* having canine teeth.

blunt, nearly perpendicular from front of mouth to the nostrils, thence nearly straight to beginning of dorsal fin. Mouth moderate, the maxillary ending opposite the pupil, its length 3 in head; the upper jaw overlaps the lower; the lips are edged with fine scallops, which are most conspicuous in front; the upper jaw is without canines, the small movable teeth extending along the sides; teeth of the lower jaw not extending far along the sides; a large, sharp, strongly-curved tooth on each side of the lower jaw, which is placed, not on a line with the fine comb-like teeth, but inward and backward from the margin a distance equal to one-half the diameter of the eye. The eye equals the length of the snout, 3 in head; interorbital space flat, a little wider than half the orbital diameter.

A short, unbranching tentacle above each eye, one-third as long as the eye is wide; nasal opening forming a short tube with a multifid tentacle on its upper inner margin, the longest filament equaling the orbital tentacle in length; very short multifid nuchal tentacles, the height of the filaments equaling their base, which extends perpendicularly, and therefore does not form a median crest. Gill-openings forming a broad fold across the isthmus.

Dorsal fin rather high, continuous, with only an obsolete notch between the spinous and soft portions; spines very flexible, nearly uniform in height, the highest one $1\frac{3}{4}$ in head, and equal to the highest soft ray, the articulate portion of the fin about even to the sixteenth ray, whence the fin decreases to the last ray, which is two-thirds the height of the first. Anal fin lower than the dorsal, its highest ray 2 in head. Caudal very nearly as long as the pectoral fin, which equals the head; ventrals $1\frac{1}{2}$ in head.

Lateral line little arched above the pectoral, continuing parallel with the dorsal outline to opposite the fifth articulate ray (or a little anterior to the middle of the dorsal fin), the line terminating abruptly, where, midway between dorsal and ventral surfaces, a series of more obscure pores originates, which extends in an almost straight line to the base of the caudal fin.

Color, in spirits, olivaceous, marked with darker. Seven squarish dark spots along middle of sides, above which and more or less separated from the lower ones are as many other irregular dark spots extending upon the base of the dorsal fin, the two series of spots together forming broken vertical bands; ground color of the dorsal dark gray; the anal dusted with black points, which give the fin a uniform gray appearance; no paler or yellowish edging to dorsal or anal; caudal, pectoral, and ventral fins smutty with minute dark dots, and the skin everywhere finely punctate with blackish; top of head evenly dark gray; a blue-black ocellated spot, edged with gray behind the orbit, and continuous with the edging a narrow band of gray outlines the suborbital ring to the corner of the mouth.

Three specimens, the largest $2\frac{1}{8}$ inches in length, were collected by

Mr. Charles H. Townsend from a rock pool at San Cristobal, Lower California, 500 miles southward from San Diego, Cal.

There seems to be no doubt that these specimens belong to the species called by Jordan & Gilbert *Salarias atlanticus*. It is, however, yet to be compared with Atlantic examples.

The specimens have been sent to the United States National Museum.

Rupiscartes atlanticus was accompanied by the young of *Girella nigricans* and *Pomacentrus rubicundus*, and by *Oligocottus analis*, *Gobiesox rhessodon*, *Cremnobates integripinnis*, and *Labrosomus xanti*. Two specimens of the last were secured by Mr. Townsend. The larger of these is nearly 2½ inches in total length and agrees with Jordan & Gilbert's description of *Clinus nuchipinnis*, except in the one character, which, according to Jordan & Gilbert, is the only feature separating *xanti* from *nuchipinnis*, namely, in having three large bluntish teeth on the vomer in the form of a triangle.

"This species [*xanti*] is extremely close to the *Clinus nuchipinnis*, differing, in the specimens examined, in the arrangement of the teeth on the vomer. In *xanti* there are three large bluntish teeth forming a triangle; *nuchipinnis* one large tooth and about six smaller ones forming a V-shaped figure. In *nuchipinnis* there is always a distinct black blotch on the opercle, which is faint or obsolete in *xanti*. In form, structure of fins, numbers of scales, &c., we are unable to find any differences." (*Jordan & Gilbert.*)

Now, the other example from San Cristobal is only a little more than 1½ inches long and *has six or seven small teeth on the vomer*, which are pointed though somewhat blunt. The markings on both specimens are well defined, excepting the "black blotch on the opercle," which is wanting on the smaller example. The lateral "vertical bands" extend upon the dorsal fin to its margin, anteriorly, and on the base of that fin posteriorly. The anal has eight squarish dark vertical bars, alternating with lighter of similar form and size, some of the anal bars being continuous with those of the sides.

These specimens of *Labrosomus* have been sent to the United States National Museum.

SAN DIEGO, CAL., *December* 19, 1884.