DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF BATHYMASTER (B. Jordani) FROM PUGET'S SOUND AND ALASKA.

BY CHARLES H. GILBERT.


On making a recomparison of the specimens of Bathymaster in the U. S. National Museum I have ascertained that those from Puget's Sound, together with a single specimen from Fort Wrangel, Alaska, belong to a species very distinct from the common B. signatus of northern Alaska. It may be thus characterized:

Body more elongate, depth 6 1/2 in length (5 1/2 in signatus); mouth smaller, maxillary reaching vertical from middle of eye, 2 1/2 in head (2 1/4 in signatus); cheeks and upper anterior part of opercles, closely invested with fine scales (in signatus, head entirely naked); lateral line running on a series of enlarged scales, the exposed surfaces of which are fully three times that of other scales of body (scales of lateral line not conspicuously enlarged in signatus); scales appearing much smaller, about nine in a series upwards and backwards from middle of lateral line to base of dorsal. Fins higher in the male, the longest dorsal ray two-thirds length of head; the membranes from last dorsal and anal rays reach to or almost to base of caudal (the caudal peduncle more largely free in signatus). Colors brilliant (see Synopsis, p. 623); in signatus, color an almost uniform warm brown, the fins somewhat mottled with yellowish.

In both species of Bathymaster I find the anterior dorsal rays all articulated; in signatus all but the first two or three are distinctly branched, in jordani the anterior half or two-thirds of the fin consists of simple rays, the posterior ones only being evidently branched.

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