Group Nemichthyina, Gthr.

Nemichthys, Richards.¹

Nemichthys scolopacea.

Nemichthys scolopacea, Richards, Voy. Samar. Fish., p. 25, pl. x. figs. 1-3.
,, ,, Günth., Fish., p. 21.
,, Jordan and Gilbert, Synops. Fish. N. Amer., p. 366.
,, ,, Goode and Bean, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., vol. x., 1883, p. 225.
Leptorhynchus leuchtenbergii, Lowe, Mém. Savans Étrang. St. Petersb., vol. vii., 1854, p. 171.
Belonopsis leuchtenbergii, Brandt, ibid., p. 174, c. fig.

The dorsal fin commences immediately behind the occiput, and the anal behind the vent. Vent below the middle of the pectoral fin. The diameter of the eye is twofifths, and the greatest depth of the head two-thirds of the length of the postorbital portion of the head.

The larger of the two specimens in the British Museum, which is probably the type of Lowe's description, is 33 inches long, and was caught at Madeira. The U.S. Fish Commission has obtained many specimens by means of the trawl off New England, in depths of from 304 to 1047 fathoms.

Nemichthys avocetta.

Nemichthys avocetta, Jordan and Gilbert, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., vol. iii., 1881, p. 409; Synops. Fish. N. Amer., p. 367.

This species, which is perhaps not specifically distinct from Nemichthys scolopacea, is characterised thus :— "Head slenderer, its depth one-ninth its greatest length. Eye large, one-third the head, without snout. Length of pectoral scarcely greater than height of anal, which is scarcely less than the greatest depth of the body, and more than the greatest depth of the head. Translucent; belly with close-set dark spots, its lower edge and anal fin black, the back abruptly white and unspotted."

One specimen, 22 inches long, was captured at the surface in Puget's Sound; its movements in the water are said to have been extremely active.

¹ Some fishes obtained by the U.S. Fish Commission, off the coast of New England, belong to this or perhaps an allied genus, but are, at present, too imperfectly described to deserve more than a passing notice, viz., Serrivomer beanii, stated to be "the stoutest of the family, and with much shorter jaws than any other, and with a very formidable vomerine armature"; 21 inches long, from 855 fathoms. Spinivomer goodei, name given to a young specimen 130 mm. long, from 2361 fathoms. Labichthys carinatus and Labichthys elongatus, with "the tail abruptly truncated," about 16 and 20 inches long, from respectively 906 and 1628 fathoms. 'Gill, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., vol. vi., 1884, pp. 260-262.