

species would appear to inhabit all depths from the surface downwards. This is extremely improbable, and its frequent capture is only a proof of its abundance in all tropical seas, and of the slowness of its movements, which prevent it from getting out of the way of the dredge or net. Like *Argyropelecus* it is a pelagic fish, which probably lives in shoals, as sometimes more than one example were obtained in the same haul. Possibly it may descend to or beyond the 100 fathoms line during the day-time.

Messrs. Goode and Bean have included this species in their Report on the "Blake" collection, from depths of 229 and 457 fathoms.<sup>1</sup>

*Habitat.*—Between Tenerife and St. Thomas; surface. Two specimens,  $\frac{2}{3}$  and 1 inch long.

Off Sierra Leone, Station 101; depth, 2500 fathoms. One specimen,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long.

Mid Atlantic, Station 106; depth, 1850 fathoms. One specimen,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches long.

Mid Atlantic, Station 107; depth, 1500 fathoms. Two specimens,  $\frac{3}{4}$  and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches long.

South of Australia, Station 159; depth, 2150 fathoms. One specimen,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches long.

Kermadec Islands, Station 171; depth, 600 fathoms. Two specimens,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  and 2 inches long.

Philippine Islands, Station 214; depth, 500 fathoms. Six specimens,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  and 1 inch long.

North of New Guinea, Station 218; depth, 1075 fathoms. One specimen, 2 inches long.

South of Yedo, Station 235; depth, 565 fathoms. One specimen, 2 inches long.

### *Polyipnus*, n. gen.

This genus differs from *Sternoptyx* in having the body covered with large, very thin and deciduous scales, and in lacking the anterior spinous dilatation of the dorsal fin.

*Habitat.*—Philippine Islands.

### *Polyipnus spinosus*, n. sp.

D. 12. A. 15.

Occiput terminating in a pair of horizontal spines pointing backwards.

*Habitat.*—Between the Philippine Islands and Borneo, Station 200; depth, 250 fathoms. One specimen,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches long.

This fish differs from *Sternoptyx* in having the body of a more regular shape, there being no deep indentation by which the tail is separated from the trunk. The form of its outline is oval, its greatest depth being contained once and two-thirds in the total

<sup>1</sup> *Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool.*, vol. x., 1883, p. 220.