

## DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES.

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### I. SHARKS.

Of pelagic Sharks, that is, of species which were found at a considerable distance from land, and are known to have a wide geographical range, only a few specimens were preserved. They belong to three well-known species of the genus *Carcharias*.

#### *Carcharias glaucus*, L.

A specimen, 10 feet long, was caught on March 2, 1876, in the South Atlantic, and another, 8 feet long, on April 5, 1875, off Japan. The Blue Shark is known to inhabit the seas of the temperate and tropical zones generally, but I believe that this is the first recorded instance of its occurrence in Japanese waters.

#### *Carcharias lamia*, Risso.

One specimen, 7 feet long, was caught near the Kermadec Group. This also seems to be the first recorded instance of the occurrence of this Shark in the Indo-Pacific.

#### *Carcharias obscurus*, Les.

A specimen, 47 inches long, was caught off the coast of Sierra Leone on April 9, 1876. A second specimen, obtained near the island of Ascension, was included in the Report on the Shore Fishes (Zool. Chall. Exp., pt. iv. p. 5).

### II. ACANTHOPTERYGIANS.

#### *Pimelepterus waigiensis*, Quoy and Gaimard.

Two specimens of 20 and 22 mm. in length were taken from driftwood, north of Papua, February 21, 1875, and resemble more mature ones in every respect, so that no change with advancing age seems to take place in this genus. The teeth are still hidden below the mucous membrane.