the anal is continued as an even broad fringe to the vent. A dark shaded portion of this anal fin seems to indicate also, in this specimen, the presence of a permanent anal, the position of which corresponds closely to that of a similar structure in our first and in the following specimen. The vent is placed far forwards, at a distance from the head less than the length of the latter. Abdominal organs visible through the thin integument of the walls of the abdomen. Pectoral present. Eye of moderate size. Snout produced, with wide cleft of the mouth, which was armed with pointed teeth. This specimen was 1¼ inches or about 32 mm. long; it was not preserved, nor is it known where it was caught.

The fourth specimen known of *Prymnothonus*, the third of the Challenger collection, is 44 mm. long, and was obtained on February 26, 1874, south-west of Kerguelen Island, in lat. 62° 26′ S., long. 95° 44′ E., in the dredge, which had reached the depth of 1975 fathoms. However, it is more probable that it entered the dredge near the surface, like the other specimens. The head and body are slender (Pl. V. fig. D), the greatest depth of the former being only 2 mm., and that of the middle of the body 1½ mm. The body is compressed, of a whitish colour, no muscular segmentation showing through the integuments. Only the tough wide sheath of the notochord remains, without a trace of ossification. Many of the cranial bones are distinctly ossified. Tail homocercal, with a well-formed bilobed caudal fin; at a distance of 6 mm. in front of the caudal a rayed anal fin commences, which, however, shows rays in the middle only, passing into the remains of the embryonic fin anteriorly and posteriorly; opposite to this anal, in front of the caudal, a dorsal fin is represented by a short strip of the embryonic fin-fringe.

The head is 7½ mm. long, with a prolonged, straight, pointed snout (4 mm.). The cleft of the mouth extends backwards to the eye; jaws armed with widely set, strong, acute teeth, unequal in size. Eye large, projecting. Pectoral fin small, but I have been unable to distinguish ventral fins or the position of the vent. The abdominal cavity seems to have been as long as the head. As in the other specimens, the dorsal and ventral muscles have not yet met in the median line of the side of the abdomen, so that the abdominal organs are covered by the integument only, through which the outlines of the stomach are clearly visible.

I have no doubt that all these specimens represent larval conditions of fishes belonging to *Paralepis* or *Sudis*, or of genera allied to them. That they all are stages of development of the same generic type of fishes is very improbable, but the second and third specimens may well be considered to be the same type, which provisionally may be designated by the name proposed for it by Richardson.