

**NOTE ON A NEW FLAT-FISH (*LEPIDOPSETTA ISOLEPIS*) FOUND IN THE MARKETS OF SAN FRANCISCO.**

**By W. N. LOCKINGTON.**

In the review of the Pleuronectidæ of San Francisco (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. 1879, 69-108), a species belonging to the genus *Lepidopsetta* (Gill) is described as identical with the *Platichthys umbrosus* of Girard (Pac. Rail. Rep., x, 149, 1857). At the epoch when this description was written, as well as on previous occasions when a comparison was instituted between this species and the description of Girard above referred to, several discrepancies were noted, yet it was not supposed possible that that author had redescribed one of Dr. Ayres's species when the description of the latter was accessible to him.

Such, however, as first pointed out by Dr. Gill, turns out to be the case, and *Platichthys umbrosus* (Grd.) must sink into a synonym of *Lepidopsetta bilineata* (Ayres), while the form described by me as *L. umbrosa* needs renaming.

The synonymy of the two species will be as follows:

***Lepidopsetta bilineata*.**

*Platessa bilineata* Ayres, Proc. Cal. Acad. Nat. Sci., i, 40.

*Platichthys umbrosus* Grd., Pac. Rail. Rep., x, 1855-'57, 149.

*Lepidopsetta bilineata* Gill, Proc. Phil. Acad. Nat. Sci.

*Lepidopsetta umbrosa* Gill, Proc. Phil. Acad. Nat. Sci.

*Lepidopsetta bilineata* Lockn., Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. 1879, 103.

***Lepidopsetta isolepis* sp. nov.**

*Lepidopsetta umbrosa* Lockn., Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. 1879, 106.

This species is not closely related to *L. bilineata*. Its ctenoid scales, almost uniform over the head and body, its nearly straight lateral line, its smaller eyes, with a broader, flattish interorbital space, as well as the differences in the form and the number of fin rays, completely distinguish *L. isolepis* from *L. bilineata*.

Typical examples are in the United States National Museum.

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**NOTE ON A FORGOTTEN PAPER OF DR. AYRES AND ITS BEARING ON THE NOMENCLATURE OF THE CYPRINOID FISHES OF THE SAN FRANCISCO MARKETS.**

**By DAVID S. JORDAN.**

During the infancy of the California Academy of Sciences the reports of its proceedings were published in the Daily Placer Times and Transcript, a newspaper then issued in San Francisco.

In the files of this paper for 1854 occur descriptions of new species of fishes from the San Francisco markets, by Dr. W. P. Gibbons and Dr. W. O. Ayres. The descriptions of Dr. Gibbons were soon after repub-



lished in the Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (1854), and identifications of them have been carefully made by Alexander Agassiz (Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., 1861, 122). By this means the names given by Dr. Gibbons have taken their proper places in synonymy.

The descriptions published by Dr. Ayres have, on the contrary, not been noticed, so far as I know, by any subsequent author, not even by Dr. Ayres himself, who soon after redescribed the same species as new, apparently not considering the first publication as a sufficient one, as one species at least received a new name on the second description.

The following are the species in question :

1. *Leuciscus gibbosus* Ayres.

Stouter and thicker than any previously described species of the genus. Mouth small. About 60 scales in the lateral line. Brown above; silvery below. Weight about a pound. (Daily Placer Times and Transcript, issue of May 30, 1854.)

This description is not very explicit, but we are to remember that the species was described from the fish market of San Francisco, and that the five species then common in the markets were the subjects of the five descriptions. The following species of Cyprinoid fishes are taken in the Lower Sacramento River, and are now, as then, abundant in the market of San Francisco: *Ptychochilus oregonensis*, *Ptychochilus vorax*, *Siboma crassicauda*, *Pogonichthys inaequilobus*, *Orthodon microlepidotus*, and *Catostomus occidentalis*.

The description of *Leuciscus gibbosus* above quoted, as well as a more elaborate one afterwards published of "*Lavinia gibbosa*," applies to *Siboma crassicauda* only among the fishes which come to the San Francisco market. The name *gibbosus* was published in May, 1854; the name *crassicauda* in August, 1854. We have therefore no alternative but to drop the latter very characteristic name, and call the species *Siboma gibbosa*, or, perhaps better, *Telestes gibbosa*, for the robust caudal peduncle hardly furnishes a sufficient reason for a genus *Siboma*. In Ayres's time, as now, this species was known in the market as the "Chub."

2. *Leuciscus microlepidotus* Ayres (l. c., May 30).

This species, afterwards more fully described as *Gila microlepidota*, is the well-known *Orthodon microlepidotus*.

3. *Leuciscus macrolepidotus* Ayres (l. c., May 30).

Form much like that of *Leuciscus pulchellus*, though a little more slender. Anal fin longer. Caudal much arcuated. Scales 60. Size of the preceding.

This is evidently the species described in August of the same year by Baird and Girard as *Pogonichthys inaequilobus*, under which name it was afterwards mentioned by Dr. Ayres.

It must therefore take the less appropriate name of *Pogonichthys macrolepidotus*. This is now the "Split-tail" of the markets.

4. *Leuciscus gracilus* (sic) Ayres (l. c., May 30).

Body slender; head much elongate. Color silvery, becoming darker on the back. Scales about 80; much larger than any other known *Leuciscus*, weighing, it is said, 30 pounds or more, but generally varying, as we find it in the markets, from 5 to 20 pounds. This is the species here known as Salmon Trout, &c. \* \* \*



This species was described soon after by Dr. Ayres in the Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences, 1854, p. 19, as *Gila grandis*. It is apparently identical with the prior *Ptychochilus oregonensis* of Richardson. This species is now no longer called "Salmon Trout," its market name being "Pike."

The small-scaled *Ptychochilus* (? *vorax* of Girard) was not then noticed by Dr. Ayres.

5. *Catostomus occidentalis* Ayres (l. c.).

Soon after reconsidered by Dr. Ayres, in the Proceedings of the California Academy, under the same name, and also still later by Professor Agassiz (Am. Journal Sci. Arts, 1855), still as *Catostomus occidentalis*.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., March 20, 1880.

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#### NOTE ON "SEMA" AND "DACENTRUS."

By DAVID S. JORDAN.

In the Bulletin of Hayden's United States Geological and Geographical Survey, vol. iv, No. 2, 1878, I published "Notes on a collection of fishes from the Rio Grande at Brownsville, Tex." In this paper are characterized two new species, "*Sema signifer*" (p. 399), and "*Dacentrus lucens*" (p. 667).

These species must be suppressed. The former is a foetal Embiotocoid, apparently *Cymatogaster aggregatus*, the other is the young of *Hystero-  
carpus traskii*.

The latter discovery was made before the paper was printed, but by inadvertence it was sent to the press during my absence in the field.

Of course neither of these species really came from the Rio Grande at Brownsville, Tex., and their presence in a jar otherwise containing only Texas fresh-water fishes is the only excuse for the gross blunders as to their relationships.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., March 20, 1880.

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#### DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SCORPÆNOID FISH (SEBASTICHTHYS PRORIGER), FROM MONTEREY BAY, CALIFORNIA.

By DAVID S. JORDAN and CHARLES H. GILBERT.

Allied to *S. ovalis* and *S. elongatus*, having the mouth, spines, and fins of the former and the color and general appearance of the latter.

Body elongate, a little deeper than in *S. elongatus* and somewhat more compressed, tapering slowly backward into a slender caudal peduncle, which is rather shorter and stouter than in *S. elongatus*.

Head rather short and small, the profile somewhat steeper than in *S. elongatus*. Mouth small, much as in *S. ovalis*, the short, narrow maxillary extending to below the middle of the eye, the premaxillary on the



Jordan, David Starr. 1880. "Note on a forgotten paper of Dr. Ayres and its bearing on the nomenclature of the cyprinoid fishes of the San Francisco markets." *Proceedings of the United States National Museum* 3(159), 325–327.  
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