

XXXVIII.—*Description of a new Osphromenoid Fish from the Congo.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.*Anabas (Ctenopoma) fasciolata.*

No palatine teeth. Depth of body $2\frac{1}{4}$ to $2\frac{1}{3}$ in total length, length of head $3\frac{1}{4}$ to $3\frac{1}{3}$ times. Snout obtuse, a little shorter than the diameter of the eye, which is 4 times in length of head; interorbital space a little broader than diameter of eye; maxillary extending hardly to below anterior border of eye; 3 or 4 spines above and 1 or 2 below opercular notch; subopercle entire or indistinctly serrated; four series of ctenoid scales between the orbit and the angle of the præopercle. Dorsal XVI 8–9; last spine longest, half length of head; middle soft ray produced in a filament. Anal X 9–11. Dorsal and anal fins very narrowly separated from the caudal, which is rounded. Pectoral as long as head. Ventral produced into a filament, reaching fifth or sixth anal spine. Scales very finely striated, 27–28 $\frac{3}{9}$; lat. l. $\frac{14-15}{9-11}$. Pale brown, with 6 or 7 wavy darker vertical bars broader than the spaces between them; dorsal and anal fins edged with blackish; ventrals blackish.

Total length 70 millim.

Three specimens from Monsembé, Upper Congo.

Presented to the British Museum by the Rev. J. H. Weeks.

The discovery of this new species, together with that of *A. nigropannosa* at the same locality, raises to four the number of species known from the Congo. *Ctenopoma nigropannosum* was described by Reichenow in 1875 (Sitzb. Ges. nat. Fr. Berl. p. 147) from specimens from the Loango Coast and the Gaboon; Günther, in 1896 (Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. [6] xvii. p. 269), overlooking Reichenow's description, renamed it *C. gabonense*. The four Congo species may be easily recognized by means of the following key:—

- I. Caudal peduncle short but very distinct, the space between the anal and caudal fins equalling at least the diameter of the eye; subopercle strongly serrated.

Dorsal with 19 or 20 spines; ventral not reaching anal; maxillary extending to below centre of eye ..

Dorsal with 17 spines; ventral extending far beyond origin of anal; maxillary extending to below anterior fourth of eye .. *A. nigropannosa*, [Reichen.
A. congica, Blgr.

II. No distinct caudal peduncle, the dorsal and anal fins nearly reaching the caudal; subopercle entire or indistinctly serrated; dorsal with 16 or 17 spines.

Ventral reaching far beyond origin of anal; length of head much less than depth of body, $3\frac{1}{4}$ to $3\frac{1}{3}$ in total length; maxillary hardly extending to below anterior border of eye *A. fasciolata*, Blgr.

Ventral extending to origin of anal; length of head equal to depth of body, $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{2}{3}$ in total length; maxillary extending to below anterior fifth or anterior third of eye *A. Weeksii*, Blgr.

Anabas (Ctenopoma) Petherici, Gthr., does not occur in the rivers flowing into the Atlantic. Specimens from the Gaboon have recently been referred to it by Günther; but I find on careful examination that they really belong to *A. (C.) Kingsleyæ*, Gthr., which differs from the White Nile species in the absence of spines on the scales behind the eye. The depth of the body is $2\frac{1}{3}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ in the total length ($2\frac{2}{3}$ to 3 in *A. Petherici*), and the anal spines number more frequently 9 than 10.

Ct. microlepidotum, Gthr., is identical with *Sandelia Bainsii*, Casteln. I have not yet been able to ascertain which specific name has priority.

The genera *Ctenopoma*, *Spirobranchus*, and *Sandelia* cannot be upheld. The types of all three have the air-bladder bifid behind and prolonged into the caudal region, as in *Anabas*, and the palatine teeth may be absent in specimens otherwise referable to *Ctenopoma*.

XXXIX.—Description of Two new Butterflies collected by Major E. M. Woodward in Nandi, Equatorial Africa. By EMILY MARY SHARPE.

Family Nymphalidæ.

Neptis Woodwardi, sp. n.

Allied to *N. incongrua*, Butler (P. Z. S. 1896, p. 112, pl. vi. fig. 2), from Nyasaland.

This species differs from the allied form in the absence of light spots on the inner margin of the primaries, and no spots are visible at the end of the discoidal cell, so that the



Boulenger, George Albert. 1899. "Description of a new osphromenoid fish from the Congo." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 3, 242–243.

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