

LI.—*Descriptions of new Marine Fishes from Australia and the Pacific.* By C. TATE REGAN, M.A.

1. *Muræna monostigma*.

Tail as long as or shorter than the body; length of head  $3\frac{1}{4}$  to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in that of the trunk. Anterior nasal tube short; posterior nostril with edge raised to form a distinct but short tube; eye situated above middle of mouth, its diameter less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  the length of snout; cleft of mouth  $\frac{1}{3}$  the length of head or a little more; jaws equal anteriorly; teeth with serrated edges, uniserial, canine-like on the sides of the jaws; 12 to 16 teeth forming the mandibulary series on each side. Dorsal origin above gill-opening; fin low, above the vent measuring less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  the depth of the body. Brownish, sometimes with irregular yellowish spots; a single deep-black spot immediately behind the eye; posterior nasal tube, 2 or 3 pores below the eye and sometimes pores on the lower jaw situated in white spots.

Three specimens, 450 to 550 mm. in total length, from Tahiti and Raiatea (*Godeffroy Mus.*).

Allied to *M. moluccensis*, Bleek., in which the posterior nostril is not tubular, the teeth on the sides of the mandible are smaller and more numerous, forming a regular series, and there is no black spot nor white pores on the head.

2. *Gymnomuræna polyspila*.

Tail slightly longer than body; length of head 11 in the total length. Posterior nostril not tubular; eye nearer to angle of mouth than to end of snout, its diameter  $\frac{1}{2}$  the length of snout; cleft of mouth  $\frac{1}{3}$  the length of head; jaws equal anteriorly; teeth in jaws biserial; gill-opening on middle of side. Reddish, with large dark brownish or purplish spots forming 2 or 3 irregular series on each side; snout and anterior half of lower jaw pale yellow.

A specimen of 182 mm. from Tahiti (*Godeffroy Mus.*).

A much larger fish (720 mm.) from Zanzibar (*Playfair*) probably belongs to this species. It is labelled *G. tigrina*, but differs from that species in the less slender form and in having the tail nearly equal in length to the body. The rim of the posterior nostril is raised. The colour is faded, but apparently the spots and red ground-colour ceased just behind the eye and in the middle of the lower jaw.

3. *Gymnomuræna fasciolata*.

Tail longer than body; length of head  $8\frac{1}{2}$  in the total length. Posterior nostril tubular, the tube longer than that



of the anterior nostril; eye above middle of mouth, its diameter  $\frac{1}{2}$  the length of snout; cleft of snout  $\frac{2}{3}$  the length of head; jaws equal anteriorly; teeth in jaws triserial; gill-opening on middle of side. Body with numerous narrow undulating dark cross-bands, some of which are broken up into spots.

A specimen of 300 mm. from Duke of York Is. (*Brown*).

4. *Gymnomuraena supraforata*.

Tail slightly longer than body; length of head  $10\frac{1}{2}$  in total length. Posterior nostril with a raised rim; eye nearer to end of snout than to angle of mouth, its diameter  $\frac{2}{3}$  the length of snout; cleft of mouth  $\frac{1}{2}$  the length of head; jaws equal anteriorly; teeth in 5 series in the upper jaw and 4 in the lower; vomerine band of teeth short; gill-opening much nearer dorsal than ventral profile. Reddish, with numerous darker spots forming vertical series and posteriorly uniting to form undulating vertical stripes.

A specimen of 300 mm. from Savay (*Whitmee*).

Three young examples (170 to 210 mm.) from Tahiti (*Godeffroy*) have the head  $\frac{1}{10}$  to  $\frac{1}{9}$  of the total length, the eye  $\frac{1}{2}$  the length of the snout, 4 series of teeth in the upper jaw and 3 in the lower.

5. *Muraenichthys godeffroyi*.

Tail  $1\frac{1}{3}$  as long as body; length of head  $3\frac{1}{4}$  in that of trunk. Snout obtuse; cleft of mouth extending beyond the small eye; teeth obtusely conical, mostly biserial. Origin of dorsal well in advance of vent, but nearer to vent than to gill-opening. Coloration uniform.

A specimen of 135 mm. from Bowen, Queensland (*Godeffroy Mus.*).

Allied to *M. gymnopterus*, Bleek.

6. *Spheroides liosomus*.

*Tetrodon hamiltonii* (part.), Günth. Cat. Fish. viii. p. 280 (1870).

Smooth, without evident spines, but with numerous pores. Length of head less than its distance from the dorsal fin; snout blunt, shorter than postorbital part of head; diameter of eye not more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  postorbital length of head; osseous interorbital width  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{3}$  the length of head; mouth terminal, the chin not prominent; upper and lower teeth subequal. Dorsal 10-11; second branched ray the longest. Anal 9. Caudal rounded. Back and sides with blackish spots separated by a pale reticulation; often a transverse band between



the orbits and a broader one across the back behind the pectorals ; sometimes a narrow band between them ; usually a large spot at the base of the dorsal fin, and another below and in front of it on the side ; caudal dusky, other fins pale.

Southern coasts of Australia ; Tasmania.

Six specimens, 105 to 150 mm. in total length, from Flinders Island and Port Phillip (*Degen*), Hobart (*Allport*), and Melbourne (*Krefft*).

*Spheroides hamiltonii*, Richards., from New South Wales and Polynesia, differs in the presence of numerous small spines, the fewer fin-rays (D. 9, A. 7-8), and the different coloration.

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### LII.—*Descriptions of Oriental Capsidæ*.

By W. L. DISTANT.

THE new genera proposed in this paper will be figured in vol. v. (Appendix) of the Rhynchotal portion of the 'Fauna of British India.'

#### EBUTIUS, gen. nov.

Head subequal in length to the pronotum, transversely impressed behind the eyes, which are well separated from the anterior margin of the pronotum, between the eyes distinctly longitudinally sulcate, the disk moderately convex, obtusely attenuated in front of the insertion of the antennæ, where it is a little ridged and excavated on each side ; antenniferous tubercles prominent, first joint of the antennæ robust and about as long as the head, second joint slender, nearly three times as long as the first, third and fourth short, together longer than first ; rostrum reaching the intermediate coxæ ; pronotum transversely constricted before middle, this anterior area somewhat transversely striate at anterior margin and with a distinct moderately transverse tubercle immediately in front of each side of the constriction, posterior area convexly deflected from base, thickly punctate, the lateral margins carinate and oblique, posterior lateral angles subprominent, basal margin a little concave before scutellum, which is somewhat large and triangular, and somewhat foveate at each basal angle ; hemelytra a little more than twice as long as head and pronotum together, clavus broad, cuneus elongately angulate, membrane apparently (as seen in



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