

O. pallida, Marrat, will not agree with any figure or description of *O. scripta*, Lam. There is a very considerable difference between the *O. scripta*, Lam., as figured by Reeve, and the *O. scripta*, Lam., as figured by Duclos; and a much greater difference exists between the shells in my cabinet and the forms figured.

O. similis, Marrat, is so decidedly distinct as to require no comment.

2 Peveril Terrace, Edge Lane, Liverpool.

May 16, 1868.

LVI.—*Diagnoses of some new Freshwater Fishes from Surinam and Brazil, in the Collection of the British Museum.*
By Dr. ALBERT GÜNTHER.

THE Trustees of the British Museum obtained, in the course of last year, several collections of South-American Fishes, of which we may mention that made by Mr. Edward Bartlett on the Huallaga and at Xeberos (Upper Amazons), others sent by Hr. Kappler from the Maroni River (Surinam), and, finally, numerous examples from Surinam, formerly in the museum of the late Dr. van Lidth de Jeude. For the present I give the diagnoses of those species which I have found to be undescribed; and more detailed descriptions with illustrations will be published in the 'Proceedings of the Zoological Society,' before which the paper was read on March 26.

Doras helicophilus.

Lateral shields well developed, entirely uncovered by the skin; the depth of the third is one-half of the length of the head, those on the tail only half as deep as the tail; their whole surface is covered with minute spines. Humeral process without spines, with a very slight ridge extending to the hinder third of the pectoral spine. The posterior lobes of the nuchal carapace are rounded, reaching to the base of the second soft ray of the dorsal fin. Dorsal spine serrated in front and behind, the anterior denticulations being directed upwards. Caudal peduncle shielded above and below. Uniform blackish; dorsal fin white, the middle black.

Surinam.

Oxydoras acipenserinus.

This fish is distinguished from all its congeners by the peculiar shape of the head and snout, which is elongate triangular, pointed, and much depressed in its anterior portion. L. lat. 42. Xeberos.

Callichthys armatus.

This species belongs to the group with compressed head.

Dorsal spine as high as the body, finely serrated behind; pectoral spine rather stronger but shorter than that of the dorsal, longer than the head. Anal spine shorter and more feeble than that of the adipose fin. Olive-coloured (in spirits), the nine or ten anterior scutes with vertical series of small blackish spots.

Xeberos and Huallaga.

Chaetostomus Fordii.

Head much depressed, elongate, its length being one-third of the total (without caudal). Eye small, one-eighth of the length of the head, and two-fifths of the width of the interorbital space, which is rather flat. Each jaw with six or seven stoutish teeth on each side; each of them has a lobe on its outer side, rather distant from the brown flat apex. Throat, thorax, and belly naked. The first ray of the dorsal and anal, and the upper and lower of the caudal, slightly thickened and rough. Pectoral spine strong, extending to the second third of the ventral fin, covered with short hooks. Each scute of the body with a series of three or four very prominent spines. Ten scutes between anal and caudal, and eight between the two dorsal fins. Brownish black; most of the scutes have a round bluish-white dot at the base; lower parts with numerous similar but more distinct white dots.

Surinam.

Chaetostomus depressus.

Head and trunk much depressed and flattened. The length of the head is rather more than one-third of the total (without caudal); the diameter of the eye is one-fifth of the length of the head, and *two-thirds of the width of the interorbital space*. The margin of the snout is covered with short bristles; interoperculum with a bundle of about eight similar bristles, the longest being only half as long as the eye. The lower side of the head, thorax, and belly entirely naked. Pectoral spine extending to the second third of the ventral, and rather rough; eleven scutes between the anal and caudal fins. Scutes with numerous striæ, each stria composed of numerous very small spines. Brown; each scute with several round, very small, whitish dots; dorsal and caudal rays with a series of similar dots, the interradiat membrane being immaculate.

Surinam.

Chaetostomus megacephalus.

Head but slightly depressed, rather longer than broad, its

length being more than one-third of the total (without caudal). The horizontal diameter of the orbit is more than one-half of the width of the interorbital space, and about one-fifth of the length of the head. Margin of the snout granulated, without bristles; interoperculum with a bundle of about twenty setiform spines, the longest of which are about one-fourth of the length of the head, and extend backwards to the root of the pectoral fin. Thorax and belly entirely naked. Twelve scutes between the anal and caudal fins. Scutes of the body without keels, but with vertical series of spines, the anterior scutes with one series only, the middle with two, and the posterior with three or more. Blackish brown; head and body with numerous indistinct round yellowish spots, each about as large as the pupil; each dorsal ray with a series of round whitish spots, the black ground-colour forming a network on the fin.

Surinam.

Chaetostomus dentex.

Interoperculum with a bundle of about ten straight setiform spines, the longest of which is as long as the eye. Thorax and belly nearly entirely naked, there being only a few granulations behind the throat. Teeth comparatively large, with the apex dilated, scarcely lobed; there are about six on each side in the upper jaw, and three in the lower. Scutes not keeled, but covered with strong spines. Uniform greyish brown.

Xeberos.

HYPOPTOPOMA (g. n. Hypostomatin.).

This genus differs from *Plecostomus* in the peculiar formation of the head, which is depressed, spatulate, the eyes being on the lateral edge of the head. The moveable gill-covers are reduced to two bones, viz.:—the operculum, small and placed as in *Plecostomus*; and a second, larger bone (interoperculum?), separated from the eye by the narrow suborbital ring, and placed at the lower side of the head.

Hypoptopoma thoracatum.

D. $\frac{1}{6}$ | 1. A. 6. P. $\frac{1}{6}$. V. $\frac{1}{5}$. L. lat. 24.

Xeberos.

Loricaria lanceolata.

Head and body much depressed, but narrow, the greatest width of the head being three-fifths of its length. Lower lip broad, slightly notched behind, fringed. Teeth very fine, few in number, about five on each side in the upper jaw, and about seven in the lower. Orbit with a rather shallow notch behind, its horizontal diameter (the notch included) being two-thirds

of the width of the interorbital space, which is flat. Thorax and abdomen covered with irregular scutes. The length of the head (measured to the occiput) is a little more than one-fifth of the total (without caudal). Origin of the dorsal fin opposite to the root of the ventral. Brown; back with about five obscure dark cross bands; fins with broad, irregular, confluent, black cross bands.

Xeberos.

Loricaria platystoma.

Snout of moderate length, slightly pointed; mouth broad, upper lip well developed, lower semicircular, of moderate width, papillose, not fringed, and with a minute barbel near the angle of the mouth. Teeth very fine, about forty on each side of each jaw, the series occupying nearly the whole width of the mouth. Orbit nearly circular, without notch, its horizontal diameter being two-thirds of the width of the interorbital space, which is slightly concave. Scutes remarkably smooth, even the lateral ridges of the body and tail being obtuse. There is a series of seven or eight scutes between the roots of the pectoral and ventral fins. Thorax and abdomen covered with small irregular scutes. The length of the head (measured to the occiput) is contained five times and one-third in the total (without caudal). Origin of the dorsal nearly opposite to that of the ventral. Uniform brownish (in spirits).

Surinam.

Loricaria lamina.

Head and body excessively depressed; snout of moderate length, very broad, the head being nearly as broad as long. Labial folds thin, fringed. Teeth minute, few in number; there are about five on each side in the upper jaw, and seven in the lower. Orbit small, with a shallow notch behind; its horizontal diameter (the notch included) is three-fourths of the width of the interorbital space, which is nearly flat. Edge of the snout trenchant. There is a series of nine scutes between the roots of the pectoral and ventral fins. Thorax and abdomen covered with small, irregular scutes. The length of the head (measured to the occiput) is contained four times and one-third in the total (without caudal).

Xeberos.

Curimatus asper.

D. 11. A. 12-13. V. 9-10. L. lat. 51. L. transv. $\frac{13-14}{9}$.

The height of the body is contained twice and two-thirds or thrice in the total length (without caudal), the length of the head thrice and one-half. Snout as long as the diameter of the eye, which is a little more than one-half of the width of

the interorbital space. Snout somewhat projecting beyond the mouth. The second suborbital bone is twice and one-half as long as deep. Abdomen flat before the ventrals, compressed behind them. Scales with their entire margin conspicuously serrated. Coloration uniform.

Huallaga and Xeberos.

Curimatus leuciscus.

D. 11. A. 9. V. 10. L. lat. 64. L. transv. $\frac{11}{10}$.

The height of the body is contained thrice and two-thirds in the total length (without caudal), the length of the head four times. Upper profile of the head and nape straight. Snout a little longer than the eye, which is three-fifths of the width of the interorbital space. Snout somewhat projecting beyond the mouth; the second suborbital bone is more than twice as long as deep. Origin of the dorsal fin equidistant between the end of the snout and the adipose fin, considerably in advance of the ventrals. Pectoral terminating at a considerable distance from the ventral, ventral terminating close to the vent. Abdomen rounded before and behind the ventrals. Scales with their entire margin conspicuously serrated. Coloration uniform.

Huallaga.

Curimatus dobula.

Allied to *C. Troscheli*.

D. 12. A. 10. L. lat. 43. L. transv. $\frac{6}{7}$.

The height of the body is contained thrice and four-fifths in the total length (without caudal), the length of the head four times. Upper profile slightly convex on the nape. Abdomen rounded in front and behind the ventrals. Snout rather shorter than the eye, the diameter of which is contained thrice and one-third in the length of the head, and is less than the width of the interorbital space. The origin of the dorsal fin is nearly midway between the end of the snout and the adipose fin, corresponding to the tenth scale of the lateral line. The pectoral fin terminates at some distance from the ventral. Scales with a few obtuse denticulations. Body silvery; dorsal fin with an indistinct, oblique, blackish band ascending forwards.

Huallaga.

Hemiodus Kappleri.

Closely allied to *H. notatus*, but with the body much more elongate.

Surinam.

Leporinus hypselonotus.

D. 10. A. 13. V. 9. L. lat. 37-38. L. transv. 6/7.

The height of the body is contained twice and one-half or twice and two-thirds in the total length (without caudal), the length of the head four times and one-half or four times and two-thirds. Back much elevated, with its profile very convex to the dorsal fin. Body with seven more or less broad, oblique, blackish cross bands—the two anterior in front of the dorsal, the third from the anterior dorsal rays to behind the ventral fins, the fourth corresponding to the vent, the fifth to the middle of the anal, the sixth from the adipose fin, and the seventh round the last caudal scales. Anterior part of the base of the dorsal and the ventrals deep black, the other fins yellowish.

Xeberos.

*Tetragonopterus ovalis.*D. 11. A. 26. L. lat. 31. L. transv. $5\frac{1}{2}/6$.

The height of the body is one-half of the total length (without caudal); the length of the head is contained thrice and two-thirds in it. Upper profile rather more convex than lower, slightly concave on the nape. The diameter of the eye is more than the width of the interorbital space, less than the length of the snout, and one-third of that of the head. The maxillary extends somewhat beyond the vertical from the front margin of the orbit. Origin of the dorsal fin immediately behind the root of the ventral. Pectorals extending beyond the ventrals, ventrals to the vent. There are four longitudinal series of scales between the lateral line and ventral fin.

Xeberos.

APHYCHARAX, g. n.

This genus belongs to the *Tetragonopterina*, and is, technically, distinguished from *Chirodon* by the presence of maxillary teeth.

Dorsal fin placed in the middle of the length of the body, behind the ventrals; anal rather long. Body oblong, covered with scales of moderate size. Lateral line visible on a part of the scales only. Abdomen rounded before the ventrals. Cleft of the mouth narrow; maxillary short; intermaxillary, maxillary, and mandibles with a single series of pointed teeth, those in the intermaxillary having a minute lobe on one or both sides; all the others appear to be simply pointed.

Aphyocharax pusillus.

D. 9. A. 18. V. 8. L. lat. 36. L. transv. 12.

Huallaga and Xeberos.

Anacyrtus affinis.

D. 11. A. 55. L. lat. 80.

Upper and lower jaws on each side with a pair of short, conical, tooth-like processes directed forwards and outwards. Intermaxillary teeth in two irregular series,—those of the mandible being in a single series, two pairs of them larger than the rest, canine-like. Maxillary with four or five distant, short, conical teeth. Back much elevated, the profile on the nape being deeply concave. The height of the body is contained twice and two-thirds in the total length (without caudal), the length of the head four times.

Lower jaw considerably shorter than the upper; maxillary not extending to the vertical from the front margin of the eye. Suborbital touching the lower præopercular limb. The diameter of the eye is equal to the width of the interorbital space, or to the length of the snout, and two-sevenths of that of the head. Origin of the dorsal fin opposite to that of the anal, rather nearer to the end of the snout than to the root of the caudal. Pectoral extending beyond the vent.

Huallaga.

Anacyrtus (Cynopotamus) amazonum.

D. 11. A. 40. V. 8-9. L. lat. 110.

The height of the body is contained twice and two-thirds in the total length (without caudal), the length of the head thrice and three-fourths. Upper profile deeply concave on the nape, the back being much elevated. Abdomen not compressed, but with a median ridge from behind the ventrals. The intermaxillary and mandibular teeth are in a single series. The upper jaw overlaps the lower slightly; the maxillary extending far behind the eye, which is rather small, placed in the middle of the depth of the head, nearer to the snout than to the gill-opening. Suborbital slightly and irregularly striated. Origin of the dorsal fin nearer to the end of the snout than to the root of the caudal, its last ray being opposite to the origin of the anal fin. Operculum very narrow; a naked space between the suborbital and lower limb of the opercle.

Xeberos.

Sternopygus axillaris.

Orbit without free eyelid; mouth of moderate width, with the jaws even in front; upper profile of head and nape nearly straight. A large blackish spot on the beginning of the lateral line.

Para.



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