

XLVIII.—*On the South-Pacific Fishes of the Genus Callanthias.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

THE genus *Callanthias* was established by Lowe in 1839 for a remarkable Perciform fish inhabiting the Mediterranean and neighbouring parts of the Atlantic—*C. peloritanus*, Cocco. A second species was discovered by Mr. Morton Allport off the coast of Tasmania and described by Günther in 1876 under the name of *C. Allporti*: one of the types is figured in the first volume of the new 'Catalogue of Fishes,' pl. xv., and I can answer for the perfect accuracy of the figure, with this restriction—that the tail-fin of the specimen is possibly injured; the absence of a filamentous prolongation of the outer rays of the caudal is therefore a peculiarity which I shall abstain from mentioning among its specific characters. A third species, of which specimens were obtained near Juan Fernandez by Dr. L. Plate, has been added quite recently by Steindachner, under the name of *C. Platei* ('Fauna Chilensis,' Fische, p. 284, pl. xv.).

From the description and figure it is evident that *C. Platei* differs from *C. Allporti* by the feebler dentition, the feebler lower opercular spine, the much shorter dorsal and anal rays, and the more slender caudal peduncle. In *C. Allporti* the last dorsal spine measures $\frac{4}{5}$ the length of the head and the longest soft rays are fully as long as the head; the third anal spine measures $\frac{2}{3}$ the length of the head; the caudal peduncle is as deep as long. In *C. Platei* the last spine is little more than $\frac{1}{2}$ the head, and the soft rays are not much longer; the third anal spine is about $\frac{1}{2}$ the head, and the caudal peduncle is $1\frac{1}{2}$ as long as deep. These characters are certainly sufficient to justify the specific distinction of the Tasmanian and Chilian fishes.

Almost simultaneously with Steindachner's description there appeared, in both 8vo and 4to editions, E. R. Waite's Report on the Fishes collected off the coast of New South Wales on H.M.C.S. 'Thetis' (Sydney, 1898), in which is figured, on plate ii., under the name of *Callanthias Allporti*, a fish which differs greatly from the true *C. Allporti*, and seems to me to be identical with *C. Platei*. Waite does not describe the fish, only remarks:—"Our specimens do not wholly agree with the published descriptions of the species, but critical comparisons are reserved for the more technical treatise previously announced." In view of this forthcoming work I therefore wish to point out that the differences which Mr. Waite appears to treat so lightly certainly indicate

specific diversity, and at the same time to draw attention to the interesting probable fact of yet another Perciform fish being common to the coasts of Eastern Australia and Chili, like *Gilbertia semicineta* and *Caprodon longimanus*, which were likewise obtained by both the 'Thetis' and the Plate expeditions.

At any rate, should, on direct comparison, the New South Wales and Juan Fernandez specimens prove to be specifically distinct, which I doubt, these species would be more nearly related to each other than to *C. Allporti*.

It is much to be desired that in future a closer comparison be instituted between the fishes of the western and eastern parts of the South Pacific than has hitherto been the case.

XLIX.—*A new Stridulating Theraphosid Spider from South America.* By R. I. POCOCK.

UP to the present time, with the exception of the Trinidad *Psalmopæus Cambridgii*, the stridulating Theraphosid Spiders have been recorded only from tropical Africa and the Oriental Region. The species that I here record therefore is of considerable interest, as being a genuine South-American Theraphosid with a stridulating-organ lodged between the coxæ of the palp and of the first pair of legs. In position, but not in structure, this organ resembles that of the tropical African genera of Eumenophorinæ (*Phoneyusa*, *Hystero-crates*, &c.). The organ, however, is much less specialized than in these last and has not the same taxonomic importance, being apparently only of generic value.

CITHAROSCELUS, gen. nov.

Belonging to Simon's section Homœommateæ of the sub-family Theraphosinæ (Aviculariinæ), and allied both to *Homœomma* and *Phryxotrichus* in size and spacing of the eyes, differing from the latter in having the labium distally covered with close-set spinules, and from both in possessing a stridulating-organ lodged between the coxa of the palp and that of the first leg. This organ consists of an irregular cluster of about a dozen or more longer and shorter red, pubescent, incrassate but apically pointed, nearly horizontal bristles above the suture on the coxa of the first leg, and a few similar but smaller bristles below the suture. On the posterior side of the coxa of the palp there are about nine similar bristles.



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