

*macrorhinus indicus*, 1.8 cm. long. So few of these were captured that I cannot attempt to define their vertical distribution.

These instances suffice to show that in the ocean the vertical distribution of young stages varies greatly in different species. Certain forms pass the whole of their life-cycle in deep water beyond 500 metres; others live in deep water only in the adult stage, or at least spend their early life in the upper water-layers; others, again, pass the whole of their life in certain clearly defined intermediate layers; while others live in the surface waters all their lives. All these groups are holopelagic forms, but we meet with a group of genuine deep-sea fishes,

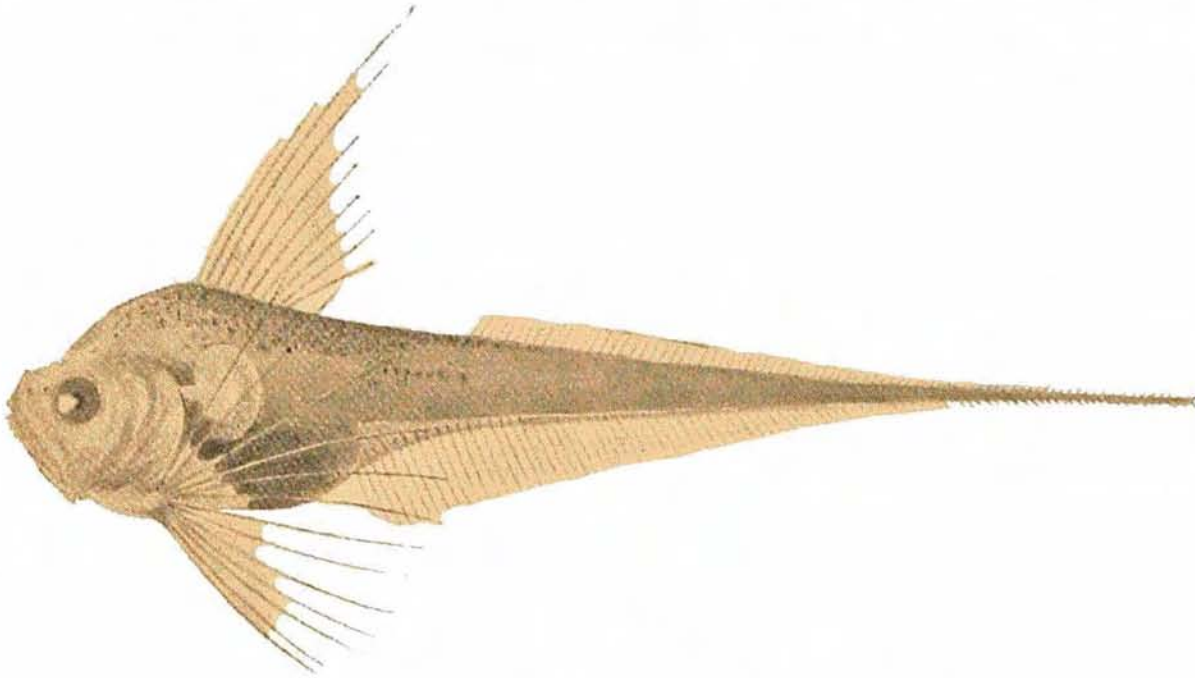


FIG. 537.  
Young of *Macrurus*. Nat. size, 4.6 cm. Station 101.

which in the adult stage live along the ocean-floor, while the eggs and fry occur in the water above, at depths varying in different species. These forms remind us of the fishes of the coast banks, from which they have probably been derived. Of special interest is the fact that we found the pelagic young of *Macruridæ* (see Fig. 537) south of the Azores and at Station 101, between Rockall and the west coast of Scotland, though we have been unable to determine the species.

The majority of the young fish collected by us belong to the biological group of transparent surface forms, but some of the minute stages may have escaped our notice or may have been damaged beyond recognition by the coarse cloth employed in some of our gear. The various forms contained in our collections have yet to be systematically examined, so