

it is with great hesitation that I describe it as a second species, attaching to it the name of the discoverer of the genus. There are two points in which our specimen apparently differs from the Cuban specimen. First, it possesses an enormously large first dorsal spine; but then this spine is but loosely articulated with the interneural, and it is quite possible that it may have been lost, during or after the life of the fish, in Professor Poey's specimen. Secondly, the original description in the Proceedings of the Philadelphia Academy mentions a postanal spine at the commencement of the anal fin, which, however, is afterwards explained by Professor Poey to be hidden under the skin, and therefore not apparent in his figure. Neither should I have taken any notice of this spine in our specimen; it is entirely covered by skin, and consists of coalesced and flattened interhæmal elements, and cannot be properly called a spine. But in our specimen, a single oval scale slightly bent along the middle occupies the place at a short distance behind the vent; this scale is quite similar to the scales representing the ventral fins, but single, and of about the same size.

The specimen is a dry skin, 78 inches long, and in a good state of preservation; it was unknown to any of the fishermen at Port Louis, and the captor stated that he had obtained it at a depth of 70 fathoms.

D. 93. A.  $x+20$ . P. 12.

The greatest depth of the body is below the first dorsal spine, and one-thirteenth of the total length or even less; length of the head one-eighth of the total; orbit occupying the middle of the depth of the head, a little nearer to the end of the snout than to the end of the gill-cover, and one-fifth of the length of the head. Each jaw with a series of small, flat, and triangular teeth, but the upper jaw is armed besides with three large compressed fangs which stand inside the outer series of small teeth, and of which the two posterior are placed more closely together, and are somewhat larger than the anterior; in the lower jaw the foremost pair is very little larger than the others. The first dorsal spine is large, compressed, sword-shaped, finely ribbed, and in its mutilated condition not much shorter than the head. The lower pectoral rays are twice as long as the upper, and half as long as the head; vent somewhat in advance of the middle of the total length. A large scale marks the commencement of the anal fin, the rays of which begin to be free in the posterior third of its extent. Hind part of the tail very slender; caudal fin deeply forked. Coloration in the present state of the specimen uniform silvery.

I have given on Pl. XLIII. a view of the anterior part of the fish of the natural size, an outline figure, reduced in size, of the entire fish, and separate views of the pair of ventral scales (*a*) and of the single postanal scale (*b*).