Two specimens were obtained, of which the larger is 7 inches long, by the U.S. Fish Commission, off the coast of New England, in 487 fathoms.

There are certain discrepancies between the description of this species and of the European specimens of the genus which made me long hesitate before referring them to the same genus. Goode says that pseudobranchiæ are present; Collett denies this, and in our specimen of *Paraliparis bathybius* they are certainly absent. The teeth are pointed in *Paraliparis bathybius*, and described as paved in *Paraliparis liparinus*. Finally, Goode does not remark upon the isolation of the lower pectoral rays which is so conspicuous in our specimen, although it should be remembered that Collett believes that he noticed intermediate rays in his example, which, without doubt, is of the same species as the one figured in this work. On the other hand, the agreement in the majority of the other essential points is great, so that I prefer at present to leave the fishes in the same genus. Probably the statement so distinctly made by Collett, viz., that the ventral fins had been accidentally lost, as well as the black colour which gives to the European species a very different appearance, has prevented Goode from comparing his specimens with *Paraliparis*.

*Paraliparis membranaceus*, n. sp. (Pl. XII. fig. D).

D. ca 70. A. ca 70.

The specimen from which the following description is taken is only 60 mm. long, and therefore presumably young; and it is uncertain whether it represents a species in which certain embryonic characters are persistent, or merely an early stage of development.

Its head is large, compressed, about as high as long, with the upper profile descending in a parabolic curve. The abdominal cavity, black and transparent through the integuments, is excessively short; the tail compressed and gradually tapering into a fine point. The whole of the integuments are colourless; with minute scattered points of pigment. A broad median dorsal fold rises from the top of the snout and is continued to the extremity of the tail, gradually disappearing as it approaches the caudal fin, which is represented by two or three extremely fine and rather long terminal filaments. The fold is highest above the posterior portion of the abdomen; there also fin-rays commence to be developed, which on the anterior half of the tail are distinct enough, but become more crowded posteriorly and almost indistinguishable. The anal has a similar structure; it also starts as a fold from the vent, which is far advanced, opposite to the hind margin of the orbit; rays are developed from the posterior end of the abdominal cavity, whence the fin is continued in the same manner as the dorsal.

Pectoral fin very large, with a very broad base, extending from the upper end of the gill-opening forward nearly to the hyoid bone; its principal portion consists of an