

Plagyodus, Steller.

No specimen of this characteristic deep-sea type was obtained during the Challenger Expedition; indeed, no example is known to have been captured by means of the dredge or trawl. The Madeiran species is rarely caught on the deep-sea lines of the fishermen, whilst the other species seem to be known from examples that were found floating on the surface or thrown ashore. The following species are known:—

Plagyodus ferox.

Alepisaurus ferox, Lowe.

Known from the depths of the Atlantic only; a fragmentary skull from Tasmania indicates the presence of this species in the South Pacific.

Plagyodus æsculapius.

Alepisaurus æsculapius, Bean, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., 1883, p. 661.

Alaska.

Plagyodus altivelis.

Alepisaurus altivelis, Poey, Mem. Cub., vol. ii. 302.

Cuba.

Plagyodus borealis.

Caulopus borealis, Gill, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad., 1862, p. 128.

Pacific Coast of North America.

Family STOMIATIDÆ.

Astronesthes, Rich.*Astronesthes niger*, Rich.

Habitat.—Near Sierra Leone, Station 101; depth, 2500 fathoms. Two specimens, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long.

West Coast of Africa, April 28, 1876. One specimen, $1\frac{1}{3}$ inches long.

This little fish is one of the most common of pelagic forms in the Atlantic as well as in the Indian Ocean, and therefore is caught on almost every voyage on which the tow-net