

which is nearly two-ninths of the total length, without caudal ; eye one-half of the length of the head ; interorbital space flat, about two-thirds as wide as the eye ; snout short, with rather oblique upper profile. Mouth narrow, hardly lateral, its cleft being above the level of the lower margin of the eye. Gill-opening as in *Bathylagus atlanticus*, but the branchiostegal membrane is not so muscular across the isthmus as in that species. The origin of the dorsal fin is nearer to the end of the snout than to the end of the caudal fin. All the fins are composed of feeble rays. The vent is situated at the beginning of the posterior third of the total length and the anal commences immediately behind it. Pectorals rather narrow, close to the lower profile. Ventrals opposite to the middle of the dorsal fin.

Otherwise the specimen is so much damaged, that I can only add that its scales and coloration seem to have been very much the same as in the Atlantic species ; and that it is altogether a rather more slender fish.

Habitat.—One specimen, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, was obtained in the Antarctic Ocean, Station 157, at a depth of 1950 fathoms.

Family BATHYTHRISIDÆ.

Body oblong, with rounded abdomen, covered with cycloid scales ; head naked ; barbels none. Margin of the upper jaw formed by the intermaxillaries mesially, and by the maxillaries laterally. Opercular apparatus complete. Adipose fin absent ; dorsal fin much elongate, many-rayed ; anal fin short. Stomach with a blind sac ; pyloric appendages numerous. Gill-apparatus well-developed ; pseudobranchiæ ; gill-openings wide ; an air-bladder. Ova very small ; ovaries without duct.

The fish for which I propose this new family differs from the Clupeidæ and allied forms chiefly in the development of the dorsal fin.

Bathythrissa.

Bathythrissa, Günth. Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., vol. xx., 1877, p. 443.

Pterothrissus, Hilgendorf, Act. Soc. Leop. Carol., xiii. p. 127.¹

Body covered with scales of moderate size ; head narrow, oblong, with the muciferous channels much developed, Eye large. Mouth narrow, Coregonoid, with bands of minute

¹ Dr. Hilgendorf seems to claim priority for the name proposed by him. To this I must demur, until he brings forward more satisfactory evidence as to the date of publication of the sheet of the Leopoldina, which contains his first notice of this fish. That sheet, indeed, bears "August" on the first page (p. 113), but as the Manuscript of it was finished only on the 31st of that month (see p. 128), it is evident that it could not have been printed, much less published in that month. Neither the German nor the English reporters on the ichthyological literature of the year 1877 mention Dr. Hilgendorf's paper, which would hardly have escaped their notice if that part of the Leopoldina had been actually issued. The exact date of the publication of *Bathythrissa* is November 1.