

These results served to confirm the opinion we had formed at the previous station (63) that the light-coloured species lives nearer the surface, while the dark-coloured species inhabits greater depths. Red prawns, sagittæ, and other creatures were found in large numbers in deep water, and we continued to meet with such forms as *Gastrostomus* and *Opisthoproctus*, and a new *Oneirodes* (Fig. 90).

Larval  
*Gastrostomus*.

We also discovered a curious little young fish, 4 cm. long, which we can only suppose to be a transition stage from a leptocephalus to a *Gastrostomus* (probably *G. bairdii*, which we so often met with). Its head shows clear indications of the

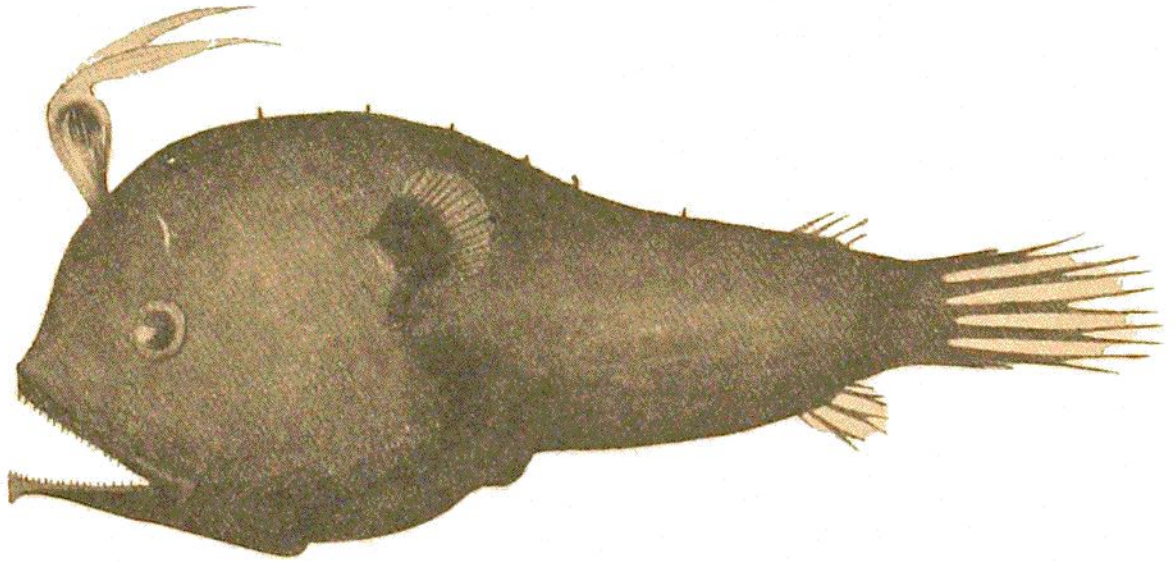


FIG. 90.  
*Oneirodes*, n.sp. Nat. size, 1.4 cm.

remarkable gullet, the tiny eyes far forward near the snout, and the small ventral fin. Posteriorly the body much resembles a leptocephalus, but here, too, there seems to be a commencement of the strange organ which is situated at the end of the long tail of *Gastrostomus*. What is chiefly interesting about this find is that it affords fresh proof of the relationship between the saccopharyngidæ and eels. When search is made, as it probably will be soon, for still younger stages of the common eel larvæ than the ones we found, it will probably be of zoological interest to seek in these teeming waters for transition stages between this strange form and the earlier leptocephalid stages.

Blind fish.

Another deep-sea fish at this station that deserves mention was a form, as yet apparently undescribed, which resembles the undoubtedly blind fish (*Cetomimus*) found at Station 35; the eyes appear very much reduced, just as in the case of its relative. Both of them were taken in deep water, at 1000 metres.