

found only in the wrongly identified specimens, which were afterwards shown by Steenstrup to be small specimens of *Gonatus fabricii*, so that the subgenus *Owenia* lost all *locus standi*.

The result of all this is a list of synonyms anything but pleasant to contemplate, but since the publication of the excellent plate in Steenstrup's first mentioned paper it will be difficult for any observer to mistake this form in the future.

The specimens which have come into my hands from the "Valorous" expedition are all small and have not enabled me to add anything of consequence to the descriptions which have gone before, but it appeared worth while to make their occurrence in the collection an opportunity for giving a resumé of the literature regarding this interesting form.

Family XII. TAONOTEUTHI, Steenstrup.


Subfamily CHIROTEUTHIDÆ, Gray.

Chiroteuthis, d'Orbigny.

Chiroteuthis (?), sp. (Pl. XXXI. figs. 1-5).

Habitat.—Pacific Ocean. Fragments of a gladius taken from the stomach of a shark, September 2, 1875.

One of the most curious specimens in the collection is this much damaged and fragmentary pen, for if I am correct in referring it to *Chiroteuthis*, that genus must attain dimensions which have been hitherto quite unsuspected.

The portions preserved are ten in number, of which three are mere scraps and give no information regarding the form of the complete structure. The largest piece is 22.5 cm. in length; with a maximum and minimum depth of 2 cm. and 1.5 cm. respectively, while the breadth varies from 0.85 to 1 cm. The form of its section at the larger and presumably the anterior end is shown in fig. 3: it is in fact a lamella, thickest in the mid-dorsal line where it is sharply folded to form a keel, thence it passes in two curves (like ) outwards, then downwards, and finally inwards towards the median line again. Whether the margins of the lamellæ were fused at this point, as will be seen to be the case in the posterior portion, cannot now be decided, but as in the majority of pens the anterior portion is flat and open, there is no reason for doubting that this was the portion where the opening began to take place.

The smaller extremity of the fragment in question has a section of the form shown in fig. 4, which was drawn, however, from a portion situated slightly farther back; it closely