

of the head; the latter is two-fifths of the length of the trunk, and one-seventh of the total. The lateral teeth are comparatively stronger and fewer in number than in *Lepidopus caudatus*. The terminal portion of the tail becomes so slender that its entire depth is occupied by the mucous canal of the lateral line, which is very wide. Caudal fin very small. The anterior anal rays are not free, but hidden below the skin. Uniform silvery.

Habitat.—Off Inosima, Japan, Station 232; depth, 345 fathoms. One specimen, 24 inches long.

The above diagnosis requires scarcely any addition. The two pairs of large teeth which occupy the front of the upper jaw in *Lepidopus caudatus* are present also in this species, but happen to be broken off near the base in the present specimen. None of the teeth show a trace of being barbed near the apex. Gill-rakers minute and remote from each other. The inside of the mouth and pharynx is black, indicating, in conjunction with the wide lateral line, delicate structure of the skin, fin-rays and membranes, the bathybial habits of the fish. On the other hand, its eye is comparatively smaller than in *Lepidopus caudatus*, being contained seven and a half times in the length of the head, and three and a half times in that of the snout.

Lepidopus elongatus.

Lepidopus elongatus, Clarke, Trans. New Zeal. Inst., vol. xi., 1879, p. 294, pl. xiv.

Benthodesmus elongatus, Goode and Bean, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., vol. iv., 1882, p. 379.

D. 154–155. A. 25 (Clarke). 100 (G. and B.).

This fish is so closely allied to *Lepidopus tenuis* that I should have referred it to that species, but for the circumstance that both the descriptions agree in assigning to it twenty-eight or twenty-nine more dorsal rays than are found in the Japanese specimen. Also the dermal elements of the anal fin seem to be more numerous in *Lepidopus elongatus* than in *Lepidopus tenuis*. Clarke represents the caudal fin as distinctly forked, and so it may have been in the specimen of *Lepidopus tenuis*, in which this fin is much mutilated. He also counted of the anal rays those only which were connected by membrane, and it is quite possible that at an earlier age a similar connection existed between the posterior rays in *Lepidopus tenuis*.

The discoverer of this fish found eight or ten specimens washed ashore on the Hokitika Beach on October 12, 1874; the largest was $27\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. The example described by the North American ichthyologists was taken from the stomach of a Halibut, caught in 80 fathoms on the Grand Bank of Newfoundland.