

Lycodes esmarkii.

Lycodes esmarkii, Collett, Norsk. Nordh. Exped. Fisk., p. 84, pl. ii. figs. 19-21, pl. iii. fig. 22;
Nyt Mag. f. Naturvid. Christ., vol. xviii., 1884, p. 73.

This species, which has been distinguished from *Lycodes vahlii* by Collett on perhaps too indistinct characters, was found by the North Atlantic expedition off the Lofoten Islands and on the north west-coast of Spitzbergen in depths varying from 260 to 459 fathoms. During the cruise of the "Knight Errant" in the Farøe Channel, two specimens 10½ inches long were obtained in 608 fathoms (Station 9, August 23, 1882). Individuals from the Varangerfjord, for which we are indebted to Hr. Collett, exceed 2 feet in length. According to him the species occurs also in the Western Atlantic, off the coast of Nova Scotia.

Lycodes reticulatus (Pl. XIII.).

Lycodes reticulatus, Reinh., K. dansk. Vidensk. Selsk. Afhandl, vii., 1838, p. 167, tab. vi.

" " Lütken, Vid. Meddel. nat. Foren. Kjøbenhavn, 1880, p. 318.

" " Collett, Norsk. Nordh. Exped. Fisk., p. 105.

Lycodes perspicillum, Krøyer, K. dansk. Vidensk. Selsk. Afhandl, xi., 1845, p. ccxxxviii.,
Gaim., Voy. Scand. Poiss., pl. vii. ; Nat. Hist. Tidsskr., 1862, p. 289
(young).

Lycodes rossii, Malmgren, Öfversigt k. Vetensk.-Akad. Förhandl., 1865, p. 516 (young)
(Spitzbergen).

Lycodes gracilis, Sars, Forhandl. Vidensk. Selsk. Christ., 1866, p. 40, pl. i. figs. 1-3 (young)
(Christiania Fjord).

Lycodes lütkenii, Collett, *loc. cit.*, p. 103, pl. iii. fig. 25.

" " Lütken, Kara-Havets Fisk. in Dijnphna-Togtet, tab. xvi.

The first specimens of this species were brought from the coast of Greenland; at a later period young specimens of apparently the same species were found at Spitzbergen and on the coast of Norway, and described under distinct names. Finally Hr. Collett is of opinion that an example, 14 inches long, obtained in the open sea, west of North Spitzbergen, in 459 fathoms, also represents a distinct species, though very closely allied to *Lycodes reticulatus*, which he named *Lycodes lütkenii*. On reading his somewhat lengthy description of this individual, I could not help entertaining some doubts as to the propriety of separating it from *Lycodes reticulatus*, and these doubts were increased by the examination of an example, 22 inches long, which the "Knight Errant" obtained in the Farøe Channel at Station No. 9, August 1882, in 608 fathoms. It might be referred to either *Lycodes reticulatus* or *Lycodes lütkenii*, or distinguished as a separate species, if no regard be paid to changes of form (to which very old examples must be subject), or no allowance be made for slight variation. In a paper on the fishes of the Kara Sea, received whilst this Report is passing through the press, I find that