

(?) *Lichia glauca*, L., young (Pl. I. fig. G).

The fish believed to be the young of this species was obtained with the surface-net on April 13, 1876, off the west coast of Africa, in lat. $10^{\circ} 55' N.$, long. $17^{\circ} 46' W.$, and is only 10 mm. long.

The accompanying figure will give a sufficient idea of the general form of its body, which is scaleless and of a silvery colour. The spinous dorsal only is marked with a very conspicuous deep black blotch. The præoperculum is armed with a long spine at the angle, and with several smaller ones besides, which are much more conspicuous on the lower limb than on the posterior. Formula of the fins: D. $\frac{6}{28}$. A. $\frac{3}{22}$. The fin-spines are strong; those of the dorsal as high as, and continuous with, the rays; the third and fourth of these spines are the longest. Caudal slightly emarginate.

It was not without some hesitation that I ventured to refer this single young specimen to *Lichia glauca*, without being able to prove the correctness of this view by intermediate stages. However, I know of no other fish of this part of the Atlantic except *Trachynotus goreensis* (= *Trachynotus myrias*) with which it might be associated; the general form of the head and body, and especially the numbers of the fin-rays, point rather to *Lichia glauca* than to *Trachynotus*, whilst the fins, in the form of which our young fish so conspicuously differs from that of matured fish, are just those organs which we should expect to be modified with age.¹

Coryphæna, Artedi.

The young stages of *Coryphæna* have been known for some time (see, for instance, Fische der Südsee, p. 146), but we owe to Dr. Lütken² our acquaintance with the means of discriminating between the young of *Coryphæna hippurus* and *Coryphæna equisetis* (*loc. cit.*, p. 489). Yet, even with the help of the excellent figures which he has given of the young of both species (*loc. cit.*, pl. iii. figs. 9–13) the specific determination is often very difficult and uncertain, especially of individuals less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. Of the three specimens collected by the Challenger I refer two to *Coryphæna hippurus*, viz., one of $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches obtained in the North Atlantic on April 28, 1876, and one $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long from the vicinity of the Low Archipelago, September 16, 1875; and the third to *Coryphæna equisetis*; it is 1 inch long, and was taken in the North Atlantic on April 29, 1876.

¹ The recent discovery off the island of Skye of a specimen of *Lichia vadigo* is additional evidence of the pelagic habits of the fishes of this genus.

² Dr Lütken (*loc. cit.*, p. 483) draws on this occasion attention to the fact that the undue creation of nominal species of this genus is the work of Valenciennes, and not of Cuvier, to whom I had attributed it in *Catal. Fish.*, vol. ii. p. 405. This is perfectly true, and I regret so far the oversight on my part, which I might have avoided by a more careful examination of the index of vol. ix. of the *Hist. nat. des Poissons*. However, the fact of Cuvier's tendency of multiplying species, especially towards the end of his life, is, nevertheless, undeniable; witness his treatment of the genera *Elacate*, *Trachynotus*, &c. I fully agree with Dr. Lütken's conclusion that there are in existence probably two species of Dolphins only.