

found to be twenty-eight in the middle-sized specimens, whilst seventeen only could be counted in the smallest. A similar diversity obtains in the number of anal rays which is respectively fourteen and nine.

Lepidothynnus, n. gen.

For the knowledge of this fish I am indebted to Professor Hutton of Canterbury College, Christchurch. The specimen, $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, was driven on shore in Lyttelton Harbour on April 17, 1887. It had the appearance of a Tunny, but was covered with scales. Of these Professor Hutton fortunately preserved some, and he also made a sketch of the fish which is reproduced on Pl. VI. fig. A. The specimen is preserved in Christchurch Museum as a skeleton, of which Professor Hutton kindly sent a photograph to me (Pl. VI. fig. A'). These materials, as well as some notes taken by my correspondent from the fresh fish, offer sufficient evidence that this form represents an undescribed genus of Scombroid fishes showing distinct affinities to *Gastrochisma*. It may be characterised thus:—

Body oblong, compressed, covered all over with large cycloid scales. Head with the upper profile arched, parabolic, compressed above into a ridge. Cleft of the mouth of moderate width, horizontal, armed with teeth of moderate size; teeth on the palatines, none on the vomer. Eye lateral, rather small. None of the opercles serrated. The anterior dorsal fin is continuous, formed by numerous slender spines. The soft dorsal and anal consists of an anterior lobe, followed by seven or eight finlets. Pectoral and ventral fins rather short. Caudal bilobed; tail with two keels at the base of the caudal. Pyloric appendages dendritic.

Lepidothynnus huttonii, n. sp. (Pl. VI. figs. A, A').

B. 7. D. 17 | $\frac{2}{3}$ | VII. A. $\frac{2}{3}$ | VIII. L. lat. 78-80. L. transv. 6 | 13 (below 2nd dorsal).

The body is broadest in front of the pectoral fin, the depth of this portion being about two-sevenths of the total length (without caudal). The head is nearly as deep as long, compressed into a crest, the small eye occupying a position in the middle of the depth of the head, but nearer to the end of the mouth than to the hind margin of the operculum. The cleft of the mouth is subhorizontal, extending backwards to below the middle of the eye. Gill-covers broad and firm as in Tunnies.

The body is covered with large cycloid scales (fig. *a.*), somewhat broader than long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad. The lateral line follows the line of the back, after having made a curved ascent above the pectoral fin.