

*Chaunax*, Lowe.

Head very large, depressed; cleft of the mouth wide, subvertical. Skin covered with minute spines. Jaws and palate armed with bands of small teeth. The spinous dorsal fin is reduced to a short spine above the snout. The soft dorsal of moderate length, anal short; ventrals developed. Gills two and a half; pseudobranchiæ none.

The fourth branchial arch does not bear a gill, but its integument is dilated, and forms a broad fold along its convex margin. The dorsal spine with the terminal tentacle can be entirely received into the groove behind it; the tentacle is fleshy, double-heart-shaped, and covered with delicate filaments of a white colour.

*Chaunax pictus* (Pl. X. fig. A).

*Chaunax pictus*, Lowe, Trans. Zool. Soc. Lond., vol. iii. p. 339, pl. li.

„ „ Günth., Fish., iii. p. 200.

„ „ Goode, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., vol. iii., 1881, p. 470.

„ *fimbriatus*, Hilgendorf, Sitzungsber. Gesellsch. naturf. Freunde, 1879, p. 80.

„ „ Steindachner und Döderlein, Denkschr. d. k. Akad. d. Wiss. Wien, xlix., 1884, p. 194.

The specimens of this fish have been obtained at very distant localities. It was first discovered at Madeira by Mr. Lowe and subsequently by Mr. Johnson. A single specimen forms part of the Challenger collection, and was obtained near the Fiji Islands, at Station 173, from a depth of 315 fathoms. Hilgendorf and Döderlein record its existence in the Sea of Japan, considering the specimens to be a distinct species (*Chaunax fimbriatus*). Finally the U.S. steamer "Fish Hawk" obtained a single small specimen on the south coast of New England in 192 fathoms.

All these specimens I consider to belong to one and the same species. The specimen from the Fiji Islands differs only in the colour of the rostral tentacle and of the groove into which it is received; these parts are black in the Atlantic specimens, and of the same colour as the body in the Fiji Island example. The latter has, in common with the Japanese specimen, the lower parts of the muciferous ducts fimbriated with very delicate and short tentacles, of which only a few are to be observed in Madeiran specimens. With regard to other characters on which the Japanese species was separated, I have to observe that seven anal rays and round yellow spots occur also in Atlantic specimens, and that the width of the interorbital space is equal to two diameters of the eye, if the soft prickly non-transparent skin above the eye be taken as part of the interorbital space.

*Habitat*.—Off Matuku, Fiji Islands, Station 173; depth, 315 fathoms. One specimen 7¾ inches long.