

obsolete. Teeth in villiform bands in both jaws. Barbel very small and slender. Angle of the præoperculum not produced backwards; hind margin crescent-shaped. The skin is densely studded with erect spines, which give to the body and head the appearance of being covered with short villosities. A series of stronger spines runs along each side of the base of the second dorsal and anal fins. The second dorsal spine is very slender, smooth, much shorter than the head; the second dorsal fin very low, commencing immediately behind the first. The ventral fin reaches to the anal; its outer ray produced into a very short filament. Space between ventral fins and vent scaleless; the distance between vent and isthmus less than the length of the head.

Habitat.—South of Yeddo, Station 232; depth, 345 fathoms. One specimen, 8 inches long.

South of the Philippine Islands, Station 214; depth, 500 fathoms. One specimen, 10 inches long.

Subgenus *Cetonurus*.

Macrurus crassiceps (Pl. XXXVII.).

Coryphænoides crassiceps, Günth., Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., 1878, vol. ii. p. 25.¹

D. 10. P. 16. V. 10.

Head exceedingly large and thick, especially the anterior portion. Snout with an anterior naso-rostral canthus, excessively broad and high, short, but longer than the eye, which is small and not quite one-fifth of the length of the head. Mouth small, inferior, extending beyond the vertical from the centre of the eye. Teeth villiform, in very narrow bands in both jaws. Intermaxillaries short. Barbel minute.

Trunk of the body very short, the vent being immediately behind the vertical from the root of the pectoral. The trunk rapidly passes into the tail, the anterior portion of which is much contracted in width. The distance between the vent and isthmus equals the length of the postorbital portion of the head.

The *scales* are small, studded with long, very fine, curved spinelets, which give the body the appearance of being covered with short villosities. The entire head densely covered with villous scales. A series of larger scales runs along each side of the base of the second dorsal fin. The second dorsal spine is very slender, obscurely denticulated in front; the second dorsal fin commences at a very short distance behind the first. Pectoral fin with a narrow base, as long as the postorbital portion of the head. The outer ventral ray is but slightly produced. Brownish-grey, lower side of the trunk black.

Habitat.—North of the Kermadec Islands, Station 170; depth, 520 fathoms. One specimen, 13 inches long.

¹ A similar fish, probably identical with the one described above, is noticed under the name of *Macrurus globiceps* (L. Vaill.) in *Nature*, 1884, No. 560.