

surface net, but disappear during the daytime, when they evidently descend to a depth to which only a moderate amount of light penetrates. A few, like *Scopelus macrolepidotus*, and, perhaps, *Scopelus glacialis*, undoubtedly belong to the bathybial fauna, but with regard to the other species admitted in this Report, I consider it equally probable that they accidentally entered the dredge during its ascent. Only a few specimens were captured in this manner, much fewer than of *Argyropelecus*, a fact which is no doubt due to their greater activity, by which they are enabled to make their escape on perceiving the approach of the net.

Scopelus macrolepidotus (Johnson).

Of this fine and large species, which hitherto was known from Madeira, six specimens, from 6½ to 8 inches long, were obtained at the Kermadec Islands, Stations 170 and 170A, in 520 and 630 fathoms.

Scopelus glacialis.

Scopelus glacialis, Reinh., Nilss., Krøy.

*Scopelus mülleri*¹ (Gmel.) Collett, Norges Fisk., p. 152; Norsk. Nordh. Exped. Fisk., p. 158.

„ „ Goode and Bean, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., vol. x., 1883, p. 222.

This species, which has been not rarely observed as a surface fish in the northern seas, is stated by Collett to have been obtained by the North Atlantic Expedition in a dredge, which was worked at a depth of 1110 fathoms. The U.S. steamers took it frequently at depths of 300, 400 and 600 fathoms off the southern shores of New England and off the coast of South Carolina. All the specimens were in a more or less injured condition, as if they had been dragged a long way through the water, and as Collett found in their stomach an Ostracod (*Concaccia borealis*) which is not found at a less depth than 300 fathoms, it is highly probable that this species is bathybial.

Scopelus antarcticus (Pl. LI. fig. D).

Scopelus antarcticus, Günth., Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., 1878, vol. ii. p. 184.

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The height of the body is two-ninths of the total length (without caudal); the length of the head is contained thrice and two-thirds in it, the depth of the head equals its length without snout. The diameter of the eye is somewhat more than one-third of the length of the head; distance between the posterior margin of the orbit and the præopercular edge one-third of the diameter of the eye. Snout short, obtuse, with its upper

¹ There is no advantage to be gained in abandoning a well established specific name for an uncertain nomenclature. Our best thanks are due to Hr. Collett for having unravelled the confused history of the first knowledge of these northern *Scopeli*, but, even if no confusion had taken place in Ström's account, I should hesitate to supersede a name given by an original observer like Reinhardt, by another which is proposed by a mere compiler.