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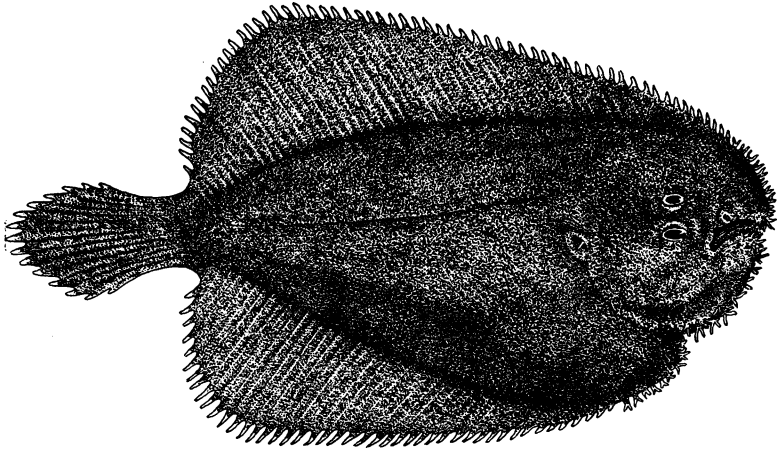
Article IX.— A NEW *GYMNACHIRUS* FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

BY JOHN TREADWELL NICHOLS.

In a collection of fishes made at Cape Lookout, N. C., by Mr. Russell J. Coles of Danville, Va., in July, 1915, and presented to the American Museum is a small undescribed naked sole.

***Gymnachirus melas* sp. nov.**

The type, No. 5717, American Museum of Natural History, our only specimen, taken at Cape Lookout, North Carolina, by Mr. Russell J. Coles, is 22 mm. long to the base of the caudal; depth 2.0 in this measure; head 3.2; lower eye 6.5 in head; lower eye to tip of jaw 3.0; greatest depth of caudal peduncle 2.5. Body rather wedge-shaped, broadest anteriorly. The vertical fin rays are longest posteriorly so that the outline of fish, including fins, is somewhat inversely wedge-shaped, broadest behind. Caudal graduated, 1.2 in head; longest dorsal ray 1.3; longest anal ray 1.3.



Gymnachirus melas sp. nov.

Pectoral reduced to a single rudimentary ray. Dorsal about 65; anal about 45. Body scaleless, with small scattered cirri, more numerous on head. Lower side of head, its margin and anterior fins thickly set with larger cirri. Color in spirits, uniform inky black, tips of caudal rays whitish.

Compared with *G. fasciatus* and *G. nudus* figured by Kendall,¹ the present fish has fin and body outlines different from either, and is darker in color. The pectoral is much less developed than in *fasciatus*, although not entirely absent as described in *nudus*, in *melas* it was at first overlooked, not being evident to the naked eye.