

CATALOGUE  
OF THE  
FISHES  
IN THE  
BRITISH MUSEUM.

BY  
ALBERT GÜNTHER,  
M.A., M.D., PH.D., F.Z.S., ETC., ETC.

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1866.

# CATALOGUE

OF THE

## PHYSOSTOMI,

CONTAINING THE FAMILIES

SALMONIDÆ, PERCOPSIDÆ, GALAXIDÆ, MORMYRIDÆ,  
GYMNARCHIDÆ, ESOCIDÆ, UMBRIDÆ, SCOMBRESOCIDÆ,  
CYPRINODONTIDÆ,

IN THE

COLLECTION

OF THE

BRITISH MUSEUM.

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vated in males. Caudal fin rounded, with the basal third scaly; the lower rays of the caudal fin of the male are produced into a long sword-shaped appendage which in the adult is nearly as long as the body of the fish. Ventral immediately below the origin of the dorsal in both sexes. Anal of the male modified into an intromittent organ, one or two of the enlarged rays having several hook-like processes at their extremities. The free portion of the tail is two-thirds as high as long in males, and a little lower in females. Lateral line indistinct. Caudal appendage of the male yellow, with black edges.

Central America.

*Var. a.*

Two yellowish-green bands along the side, separated, and bordered above and below, by a blue band.

*a-b, c-d.* Males and females. River Chisoy. From the Collection of Messrs. Godman and Salvin.

*e.* Male: skeleton. River Chisoy.

*Var. β.*

The middle blue band darkest, black, running from the eye to, and along the upper border of, the caudal appendage.

*f, g-l.* Adult males. Cordova.

*m.* Halfgrown male. Mexico. From M. Sallé's Collection. Caudal appendage very short.

*Var. γ.*

Body without bands, covered all over with irregular black spots.

*n-q.* Males. River Chisoy. From the Collection of Messrs. Godman and Salvin.

## 18. PLATYPŒCILUS.

Cleft of the mouth small, transverse, mandible very short, with the bones not united, the dentary being moveable. Snout not produced. Both jaws with a single series of small, pointed teeth. Scales rather large. Origin of the anal fin behind that of the dorsal. Sexes differentiated? Intestinal tract with numerous convolutions. Mud-cating.

Central America.

Although we know only the female of this fish, we conclude, from its close affinity to *Pecilia* and *Mollienesia*, that the anal fin of the male is similarly modified.

### 1. *Platypœcilus maculatus.*

D. 10. A. 9. V. 6. L. lat. 25. L. transv. 8.

Body much compressed and elevated, its greatest depth being below the origin of the dorsal fin, and contained twice and one-third in the total (without caudal). Head less compressed than the body, the width of the interorbital space being nearly two-thirds of the length of the head, which is two-sevenths of the total (without

caudal). The diameter of the eye is more than the length of the snout, and one-third of the length of the head. The dorsal fin is rather large, longer than high, and its origin is a little nearer to the root of the caudal than to the extremity of the snout. Anal small, its origin being opposite to the middle of the dorsal. Caudal rounded; the free portion of the tail is short and high, its least depth being equal to the length of the head or to the distance between dorsal and caudal. The pectoral extends considerably beyond the root of the ventral, and the ventral reaches the origin of the anal.

Brownish olive, with a roundish black spot on the middle of the root of the caudal; a blackish spot on the middle of the side of the trunk. Dorsal sometimes densely spotted with black; the lower margin of the anal and the upper and lower margins of the caudal black.

Mexico.

*a-b.* One inch and a half long. From M. Sallé's Collection.

## 19. GIRARDINUS.

*Girardinus*, *Poey, Mem. Cub. i.* (1851) p. 383.

Cleft of the mouth small, mandible very short, with the bones not united, the dentary being moveable. Snout not produced, with the lower jaw more or less prominent. Both jaws with a single series of slender, moveable, pointed teeth, contracted at the base. Scales rather large. Origin of the anal fin generally in advance of, rarely opposite to, that of the dorsal. Anal fin of the male modified into an intromittent organ and much advanced. Intestinal tract with numerous convolutions. Mud-eating.

West Indies; Southern parts of North America.

### 1. *Girardinus uninotatus.*

*Poey, Mem. Cub. ii.* (1858) p. 309.

B. 5. D. 9. A. 11. L. lat. 35.

The height of the body is one-fifth of the total length (with the caudal), the length of the head two-elevenths or one-sixth. Eye longer than the snout, and contained twice and three-fourths in the length of the head. The dorsal fin of the female commences in the middle of the total length; ventrals reaching the vent. Anal process of the male very long, equal in length to its distance from the end of the snout, terminating in a clasper. Greenish brown, with a large round spot on the side, opposite the vent. (*Poey.*)

Cuba; river Tacotaco.

### 2. *Girardinus metallicus.*

*Poey, l. c.* p. 387, lam. 31. figs. 8-11.

B. 5. D. 9. A. 11. V. 6. L. lat. 30. Vert. 13/20.

The height of the body is somewhat more than the length of the