Setarches, Johnson.

Setarches fidjiensis, n. sp. (Pl. I. fig. C).1

D. $10 \mid \frac{1}{10}$. A. $\frac{3}{5}$. P. 23.

The height of the body is one-third of the total length (without caudal); the length of the head two-fifths. Head scaleless, without prominent spines on the vertex and with parallel ridges; interorbital space flat, as wide as the eye, the diameter of which is two-ninths of the length of the head and two-thirds of that of the snout; upper jaw overlapping the lower, maxillary extending to below the middle of the eye; very narrow bands of villiform teeth in the jaws on the vomer and palatine bones. The largest spines of the head are three at the angle of the præoperculum; smaller ones are distributed on the præorbital, the lower præopercular margin, and the operculum. The fourth dorsal spine is the longest, two-fifths of the length of the head; the third anal spine is longer than the second. Pectoral extending to the anal fin. Body covered with minute cycloid scales. Lateral line wide. Body irregularly mottled with brown.

Habitat.—Off Matuku, Fiji Islands, Station 173; depth, 315 fathoms. One specimen, 3 in. long.

Only one species, represented by a single example from Madeira, was previously known of this genus, which is evidently a deep-sea modification of Sebastes; the Fiji species so much resembles the one from Madeira as to leave no doubt whatever with regard to their natural affinities. They are fishes inhabiting moderate depths, and I should say that they are not likely to descend below 500 fathoms.

Since the above lines were written, a third species has been described by Goode,² under the name of Setarches parmatus. Specimens were obtained off the southern coast of New England and in lat. 34° N., at depths of 120 and 178 fathoms. They are young, only 52 and 53 mm. long, possess only ten dorsal spines, small cycloid scales, and a deep body, the height of which is three-eighths of its length.

Bathysebastes.

Bathysebastes, Steindachner und Döderlein, Denkschr. d. k. Akad. d. Wiss. Wien, 1884, xlix. p. 207.

This genus is evidently closely allied to Setarches and Lioscorpius, with either of which it may have to be united; it has been characterised thus:—

¹ This specimen was accidentally destroyed by the artist to whom it had been entrusted for the purpose of being drawn. The figure was finished before the accident happened, but could not be compared by myself with the specimen.

² Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., 1881, p. 480.