

narrower than the orbit. An angular projection of the parietals above the front margin of the orbit. Præopercular margin gently convex; the opercular pieces very short in the longitudinal axis of the head. The lower ridges of the mandible, præ- and suboperculum finely serrate. Teeth in the jaws very minute, forming extremely narrow bands; palate toothless.

The first dorsal spine is short, the second very strong, compressed, scythe-shaped, as long as the orbit; the other spines are much more feeble, and gradually decrease in length. The rayed dorsal is only about half as high as the longest spine. The two anal spines are separate from the soft portion, the anterior and longer being one-third the length of the longest dorsal spine; the soft anal fin is similar to the opposite dorsal. Caudal fin as long as the orbit, truncated. The pectorals are inserted below the middle of the depth of the body, and are broad and much shorter than the ventrals. Ventrals with a strong, straight, compressed spine, shorter than the dorsal spine, the fins extending to the soft anal. The distance between the root of the ventrals and the anal spine is less than that between ventrals and pectorals, the vent occupying the middle. The projecting first interhæmal renders the short space between vent and anal trenchant, whilst the pelvic region is rather flattened, and there exists no groove for the reception of the ventrals.

The scales (fig. B<sup>1</sup>) leave the nape of the neck and a narrow strip below the dorsal profile naked. Those covering the side of the body are much deeper than long, the free portion, which shows the entire margin of a cycloid scale, and only a few concentric striæ, being less deep than the radical portion, which is more deeply striated, the striæ (all of which run parallel to the hind-margin of the scale) being more numerous. Along the base of the dorsal and anal fins a series of harder scales is firmly embedded in the skin, each being armed with a series of small spines. The lateral line follows the dorsal outline.

Silvery, with a blackish crescent behind the pectoral. Total length, 3 inches.

One specimen was obtained two hundred miles off Cape Farewell, in 400 fathoms. It is now in the British Museum.

Fig. B<sup>1</sup> of Pl. X. represents a scale from the middle of the side, much magnified; the free portion being on the left, and the radical on the right hand side of the reader.