

REGALECUS GLESNE, ASCANIUS.—AN ADDITION TO
THE FAUNA OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

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IN his article—"On a species of *Regalecus* or Great Oar-fish, caught in Okain's Bay,"* H. O. Forbes mentions that the example there recorded is the tenth known from New Zealand waters, the records being as follows:—(1) Nelson, Oct. 1860; (2) Jackson's Bay, 1874; (3) New Brighton, May 1876; (4) Little Waimangaroa Beach, 1877; (5) Cape Farewell, 1877; (6) Moeraki, 1881; (7) Moeraki, June 1883; (8) Otago, June 1887; (9) Nelson Harbour, September 1890; (10) Okain's Bay, May 1891.

Two examples have been recorded from Australian seas. McCoy† figures and describes under the name *Regalecus banksi*, Cuvier, a specimen taken in May 1878, between Victoria and Tasmania. The second occurrence was near the Tweed River, in Queensland waters, and C. W. De Vis publishes a description of the fish under the new name *Regalecus mastersii*.‡ In his Catalogue§ Macleay includes *Regalecus gladius*, Cuv. & Val., with the remark, "said to have been seen on the Tasmanian Coast. Johnston, possibly on this authority, places it in his list of Tasmanian species.|| The example described by Ramsay as *Regalecus jacksoniensis*¶ is really a *Trachipterus*.

I have now to record a third Australian example. On August 12th last, a very fine specimen was discovered by a fisherman cast up on Shark Beach, within Port Jackson. It was obtained by Mr. Fitzwilliam Wentworth, of Greycliff, Vaucluse, who presented it to the Trustees.

Examples of the genus have never been obtained perfect, due to the extreme fragility of their members. The portions missing in our specimen were the lower parts of the head, including the branchiostegals, the cephalic and nuchal crests, one of the ventral filaments, and the end of the caudal. The body was cut almost in halves, by, it is presumed, a boat: otherwise it was in fair

* Forbes—Trans. New Zeal. Inst., xxiv., 1891, p. 192.

† McCoy—Prod. Zool. Vict., Dec. xv., 1887, pl. 145.

‡ De Vis—Proc. Roy. Soc. Qd., viii., 1892, p. 109.

§ Macleay—Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., vi., 1882, p. 55.

|| Johnston—Proc. Roy. Soc. Tasmania, 1890, p. 34.

¶ Ramsay—Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., v., 1881, p. 631, pl. xx.