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II.—FISHES.

BASCANICHTHYS PINGUIS, *Günther*.

WE have received from Mr. C. Chute, an Ophichthyian Eel taken at Rose Bay, on the southern shores of Port Jackson. It is of the genus *Bascanichthys*, Jordan and Davis, and without doubt identical with *Ophichthys pinguis*, Günther.¹ On mentioning this to Mr. J. D. Ogilby, he suggested that his *Bascanichthys hemizona*,² might also be the same species: together we made the necessary comparison, and found it to be so. Mr. Chute's specimen is therefore the second record for Port Jackson. The species will be known as *Bascanichthys pinguis*, Günther, the type of which was described from the Solomon Islands.

MONACANTHUS MOSAICUS, *Ramsay & Ogilby*.

In November last, Mr. J. A. Boyd, of Eden, Twofold Bay, wrote:—"I send you two dried Leatherjackets caught in the lake here. Neither I, nor a couple of other old fishermen, have seen anything like them before." These, I find, to be *M. mosaicus*, which has its distribution thus extended considerably southward, attaining almost the limits of the State. It was previously known only from Port Jackson, and off Wati Moli whence an example was trawled by the "Thetis" Expedition.

Mr. Boyd's remarks support the conclusion that it is a rare species on our coast; and in reply to my queries he further writes:—"Lake Curato, like most of the coastal lagoons, is sometimes closed and at others open to the sea. For the last nine months it has been open, but the mouth is getting very shallow. The fish seems rare here, for though I have made many hauls, I got but one in the seine, the other was taken in a meshing net."

PROTOTROCTES MARÆNA, *Günther*.

Of this species, known from Tasmania and Southern Victoria, we have an example taken in New South Wales. It was obtained for us in the Snowy River, near Mount Kosciusko, by our generous donor Mr. A. M. N. Rose.

¹ Günther—Cruise 'Curacoa,' 1873, p. 430, pl. xxxv.

² Ogilby—Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., xxii., 1897, p. 248.

HEMITAUTOGA CENTIQUADRA, *Commerson*, MS.

Labrus centiquadrus, Lacép., Poiss., iii., p. 493.

This species is represented in the collection by two examples taken some years ago in Port Jackson and registered as *Julis*, sp. It may be more familiar under the name *PlatyGLOSSUS hortulanus*, used by Günther,³ but why *hortulanus* should be chosen in preference to *centiquadra* is not clear. The latter name occurs in Lacépède's work, on page 493, where it is accompanied by a description; the former on page 518 (not 516, as rendered by Bleeker, Günther, and Day), without description.

This species ranges from the Indian Ocean, through Malaysia to the Pacific, and though not previously recognised from Australia, will doubtless also be found on the northern coasts.

LETHRINUS OPERCULARIS, *Cuvier and Valenciennes*.

An example taken in Port Jackson introduces this species to the fauna of the State. It has been recorded from Lord Howe Island.

EDGAR R. WAITE.

³ Günther—Brit. Mus., Cat. Fish., iv., 1862, p. 147.