

STUDIES IN AUSTRALIAN FISHES.

No. 1.

By ALLAN R. McCULLOCH, Zoologist.

(Plates x.-xi.)

It is my intention to contribute under this heading a series of short papers dealing with material as it comes to hand.

The present article contains an account of some species of the genera *Clinus*, *Petraites* and *Cristiceps*. They are an extremely variable group, and it is only by an examination of large series that the limits of the many species can be determined. The Australian Museum Collection, together with that of the late Sir William Macleay, affords such material, and I take the opportunity of figuring the eight species available, as well as giving a short comparative description of each.

To Mr. George Masters, Curator of the Macleay Museum, my best thanks are due for enabling me to examine the specimens under his charge; also to Messrs. J. Gabriel, of Melbourne, and H. E. Finckh and Bassett Hull, Junr., of Sydney, for additional specimens.

The species dealt with, including synonyms, are as follows:—

- Cristiceps aurantiacus*, Cast.—Syn. *C. pictus*, Macl.
- „ *australis*, Cuv. & Val.—Syn. *C. macleayi*, Cast.;
C. howittii, Cast.; *C. pallidus*, Macl.; *C. splendens*, Cast.
- „ *argyropleura*, Kner.
- Petraites heptacolus*, Ogilby.—Syn. *Cristiceps wilsoni*, Lucas.
- „ *roseus*, Günther.
- „ *fasciatus*, Macl.—Syn. *Clinus whiteleggi*, Ogilby.
- „ *phillipi*, Lucas.
- Clinus perspicillatus*, Cuv. & Val.—Syn. *Clinus despicillatus*, Rich.

CLINUS, Cuvier.

Clinus, Cuvier, Règne Anim., ii., 1817, p. 251 (*mustelaris*).

This genus was proposed for Blennies in which the anterior rays of the dorsal fin, while widely spaced from those following, are nevertheless connected with them by membrane.