TRANSACTIONS

OF

THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

VOLUME XVII.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY:

SOLD AT THEIR HOUSE IN HANOVER-SQUARE;
AND BY MESSRS. LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO., PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1903-06.

that they sometimes come across it when digging graves. It is much feared for its bite. Although captured by vegetable bait (cassava, a sort of tuber), a specimen opened by Dr. Cunnington contained partially digested fish in the stomach.

This is the first specimen from the borders of Lake Tanganyika which falls under the eyes of an ichthyologist, and it confirms the provisional identification of the species (see Boulenger, Poiss. Bass. Congo, p. 38). The specimen figured by Moore in his 'Tanganyika Problem,' p. 153, is from Lake Albert Edward. The following notes are taken from Dr. Cunnington's specimen:—

Depth of body $8\frac{1}{3}$ times in total length; length of head $4\frac{4}{5}$ times in distance from end of snout to vent; diameter of eye 13 times in length of head; dorsal fin originating a little nearer to vent than to occiput; 60 scales in a longitudinal series from the gill-opening to above the vent, 42 round the body; vent on the left side. Dr. Cunnington describes the coloration as "mottled grey and black, darker above; sinuous lines of brown on the dorsal region and on the tail; tail with large black blotches on a grey ground; belly mottled grey and flesh-colour, with a pinkish tinge all over."

MORMYRIDÆ.

3. Marcusenius tanganicanus, sp. n. (Plate XXX. fig. 1.)

Depth of body $3\frac{1}{4}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ times in total length, length of head $4\frac{1}{3}$ to $4\frac{2}{3}$ times. Head as long as deep, not quite twice as long as broad; snout as long as or a little shorter than the eye, rounded, projecting beyond the mouth, which is small and a little anterior to the vertical of the nostrils; teeth bicuspid, 5 in the upper jaw, 6 in the lower; nostrils on a line with lower border of eye, nearer the latter than the end of the snout; eve $4\frac{1}{3}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$ times in length of head, about once and $\frac{1}{2}$ in interocular width. Dorsal 31-34, considerably shorter than its distance from the head, anterior rays longest. Anal 23-25, originating below 8th to 10th rays of dorsal, equally distant from base of ventral and from root of caudal; anterior rays longest, especially in the males, in which the anterior half of the fin forms a rounded lobe. Pectoral pointed, as long as or a little shorter than the head, extending beyond base of ventral. Caudal fin scaly at the base, with pointed lobes. Caudal peduncle twice and $\frac{1}{4}$ to twice and $\frac{2}{5}$ as long as deep, a little shorter than the head. 65 to 67 scales in the lateral line, $\frac{17-19}{21-22}$ in a transverse series on the body, $\frac{12-15}{12-14}$ in a transverse series between dorsal and anal, 12 round caudal peduncle. Uniform greyish above, silvery white beneath; dorsal and anal fins whitish at the base, grey distally.

Total length 160 millim.

Two specimens from Sumbu, and one taken in a river at Msamba. Native name: Zoveruz.

This species is very closely allied to, and exactly intermediate between, M. discorbynchus Peters, from the Zambesi and Lake Nyasa, and M. petherici Blgr., from the vol. xvII.—Part vi. No. 2.—October, 1906.

Nile. It differs from the first in the mouth being a little more anterior, in the shorter dorsal fin with 31-34 rays instead of 34-36, and in the depth of the caudal peduncle being contained less than twice and a half in its length; from the second in the caudal peduncle being more than twice as long as deep and surrounded by 12 scales instead of 14.

4. Mormyrus longirostris Peters.

A single specimen, 330 millim. long, from Sumbu. Native name: *Domodomo*. Said to grow to nearly three feet. Dorsal 75, $5\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as anal; anal 18; 26 scales round candal peduncle. Dr. Cunnington describes the coloration as "Grey above, lighter to white below, darker on top of head, with darker blotches along middle of side; tail darker, with some patches of red; two brown spots below the eye; ventrals reddish, grey distally."

M. longirostris, which is known from the Zambesi and the Congo, is so closely related to *M. caschive*, from the Nile, that it should perhaps be regarded as merely a variety of the latter.

CLUPEIDÆ.

5. Pellonula miodon, sp. n. (Plate XXX. fig. 2.)

Depth of body $4\frac{2}{3}$ to $5\frac{1}{2}$ times in the total length, length of head $3\frac{2}{3}$ to 4 times. Snout obtusely pointed, as long as the eye, the diameter of which is contained $3\frac{1}{3}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ times in length of head and equals once and $\frac{1}{2}$ to once and $\frac{2}{3}$ interorbital width; chin projecting beyond the snout; maxillary extending to below anterior border or anterior fourth of eye; teeth small, canines confined to anterior extremity of mandible. Gill-rakers long and slender, closely set, 35 to 40 on lower part of anterior arch. Dorsal 15–16, equally distant from centre or posterior border of eye and from root of caudal; longest rays about $\frac{1}{2}$ length of head. Anal 16–17, a long way behind the dorsal, nearer to root of caudal than to base of ventrals. Pectoral $\frac{3}{5}$ length of head, widely separated from the ventral. Ventral inserted below anterior third or middle of dorsal. Caudal deeply forked, with pointed lobes. Caudal peduncle once and $\frac{1}{2}$ to once and $\frac{2}{3}$ as long as deep. 45 to 48 scales in a longitudinal series, 14 in a transverse series; 19 or 20 keeled scutes between isthmus and ventrals, 10 or 11 between ventrals and anal. Olive above; silvery below, with a blue indistinct lateral band; dorsal and caudal greyish, other fins white.

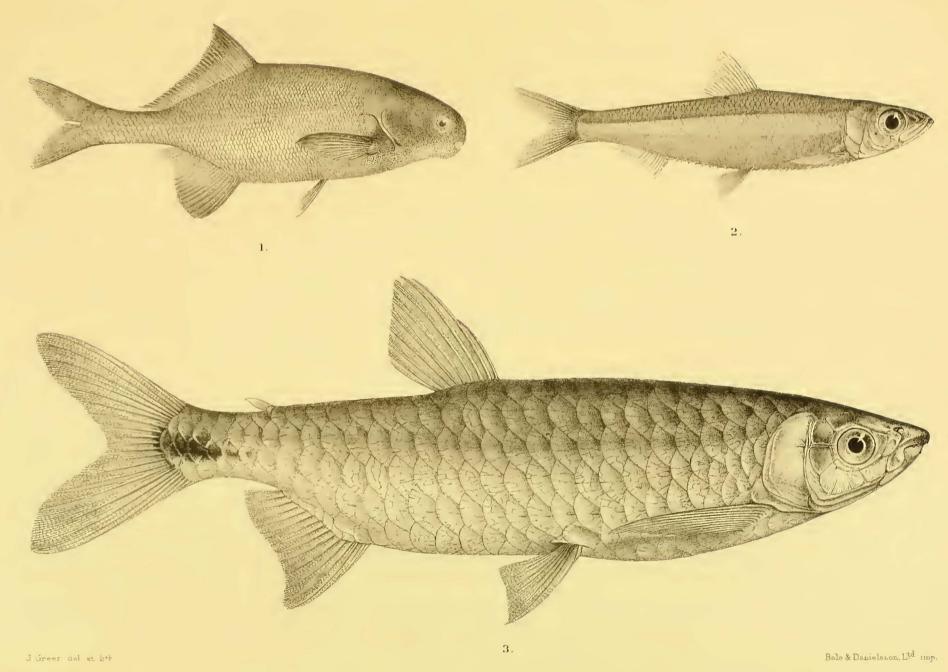
Total length 140 millim.

Several specimens from Ndanvie, Tembwi, Vua, Mbete, Niamkolo Id., and Kasakalawa. Native names: Lumbu, Sembe, and Dagaa. This is, no doubt, the little fish "very like Whitebait" mentioned by Livingtone ('Last Journals,' vol. ii. p. 17) as the Dagala or Nsipé of Lake Tanganyika, which, in my previous ignorance of any sort of Clupeid in

PLATE XXX.

- Fig. 1. Marcusenius tanganicanus, p. 545. 4 nat. size.
 - 2. Pellonula miodon, p. 546.
 - 3. Alestes rhodopleura, p. 547. \(\frac{3}{4}\) nat. size.

Trans.Zool, Sol. Vol. XVII. FL. XXX.



I.MARCUSENIUS TANGANICANUS. 2.PELLONULA MIODON. 3.ALESTES RHODOPLEURA.