

# APPENDIX.

## THE FISHES OF FUNAFUTI.

(SUPPLEMENT.)

BY EDGAR R. WAITE, F.L.S., Zoologist.

WHEN Mr. H. E. Finckh was about to leave for Funafuti in order to study living corals, it was suggested that he should collect objects of marine life for the Museum. In order the better to know our requirements, he interviewed my colleagues and myself; among other matters I especially impressed upon Mr. Finckh the desirability of obtaining the "Palu" mentioned in my report on the Fishes (pp. 199 - 201) as frequenting deep water in the neighbourhood of the coral atolls.

It was with considerable satisfaction therefore that on the return of the expedition, we learned that a "Palu" had been obtained. By the kind offices of the Local Funafuti Committee of the Royal Society, the specimen passed into the possession of the Trustees and has been entrusted to me for determination; it proves to be of most exceptional interest.

Owing to the large size of the fish and the difficulty of preserving it, it was cut into three pieces; an unfortunate proceeding, but one which does not interfere with its recognition. It proves to be as follows:—

### GEMPYLIDÆ.

*RUVETTUS, Cocco,*

*RUVETTUS PRETIOSUS, Cocco.*

*Ruvettus pretiosus*, Cocco, Giorn. Sci. Sicil., xlii., 1829, p. 21;  
Goode and Bean, Oceanic Ichth., U.S. Nat. Mus. Sp. Bull.  
No. 2., 1895, p. 196, pl. lvii., fig. 210.

This is a North Atlantic form and the only member of the genus. On the eastern side of the Atlantic basin it ranges from the Canary Islands to Portugal and is found at several stations in the Mediterranean: on the American coast it is common off Cuba and two examples have been taken east of New York. It is therefore distributed in the North Atlantic in twenty-five degrees of latitude, roughly speaking from 20° to 45° N. Its extreme eastern station appears to be Spalatro in the Adriatic 16° E., and its western limit Cuba 85° W; thus it extends over one hundred degrees of longitude.