

# NOTES ON AMERICAN PARASITIC COPEPODA.

No. I.

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In the course of some helminthological investigations concerning the Fresh-Water Fishes of this region, the results of which I hope to publish shortly, my attention has occasionally been attracted to Parasitic Copepoda, the careful examination of which I have hitherto been obliged to defer. The present paper has for its object the consideration of three of these forms.

## I.

*ERGASILUS CENTRARCHIDARUM*, n. sp.

The gills of various members of the family Centrarchidae are found in this neighbourhood to be infested by a small species of *Ergasilus*, which usually occurs abundantly on infected individuals. I have observed that the same parasite may also occur on the Perch, but it is much more commonly met with on the Rock Bass (*Ambloplites rupestris*), the common Sun-Fish (*Eupomotis aureus*, Gill and Jordan), and the Long-Eared Pond-Fish (*Lepomis auritus* [L.] Raf.), especially on the first of the three. I have only met with female specimens.

### CHARACTERS.

*Length of body, exclusive of furcal bristles,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mm., of egg-sacs 1 mm. Cephalothorax nearly as broad as long. Median constriction barely noticeable. The longest of the antennulary bristles as long as the antennule. Mandible without palp. Basal joint of natatory limbs naked. Ramus internus of 1st pair, with single bristle on inner border of 1st and 2nd joints, and 5 terminal bristles: of succeeding pairs, with 2 bristles on the 2nd joint. Ramus externus of 1st pair with 1 spine on outer border of 1st, 2 on outer border of 3rd, and a bristle on inner border of 2nd joints: of succeeding*