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XII.—On the British Cetacea

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Mandibles nearly cylindrical, very long and prominent, widely divergent at the extremities, which are armed with a long, slightly curved dark brown fang, having a small, obtuse protuberance at its base on the upper side; on their inner surface are two rows of teeth, the outer one consisting of twelve and the inner one of eight; they have, besides, seven strong tooth-like processes at their extremity surrounding the base of the fang: maxillæ long, straight, enlarged at the extremity, which is prominent and somewhat angular on the outer side: these parts are yellowish brown. Lip semicircular and dark brown, the apex, which is prominent, being yellowish brown. Sternum of an elongated heart-shape and brown colour. Cephalo-thorax somewhat oval, slightly compressed before, broadly rounded in front, with a large circular indentation in the medial line of the posterior region; it is of a brown colour with rays of a deeper shade diverging from the medial indentation to the margins. Eyes disposed on black spots in two transverse nearly parallel rows on the anterior part of the cephalo-thorax; the anterior intermediate pair, with each lateral pair, is seated on a prominence, the anterior eye of the latter being the smallest of the eight. Legs long, slender, provided with hairs and a few fine spines; they are of a pale brown colour; first pair the longest, then the second, third pair the shortest. Palpi very slender and yellowish brown; the cubital joint is the shortest and after that the axillary joint. Abdomen long, somewhat cylindrical, enlarged at its anterior and tapering to its posterior part; along the middle of the upper part extends a large, festooned brown band whose margins are the darkest; in the medial line of this band are numerous, minute, whitish spots, and four small indentations, forming an elongated trapezoid, whose anterior side is the shortest, occur on the part which is enlarged; sides dull yellowish brown, comprising an obscure, irregular, longitudinal brown band; under part dull yellowish brown, with a dark brown band in the middle tapering to the spinners, at the base of which, on each side, is a whitish spot. Spinners and plates of the spiracles reddish brown.

XII.—*On the British Cetacea*. By J. E. GRAY, Esq., F.R.S.

HAVING occasion lately to examine the various species of Cetacea in the British Museum and other collections and the various authorities for the species, I am induced to send you the following list containing some additions to our fauna. It would appear as though modern writers on this part of our fauna had not taken the trouble to examine for themselves the authority on which the species have been determined. Dr. Fleming, in his 'British Ani-

mals,' collected together the best materials for the details of the species, but he made no attempt at revising their arrangement. If I have been under the necessity of reducing some of the larger species, I have been enabled to add three new species, two of which are types of distinct genera.

Fam. I. BALÆNIDÆ.

1. *Balæna Mysticetus*, Linn.
2. *Megaptera longipinna*; *Balæna longipinna*, Rudolphi; *The Whale*, Johnston, Trans. Newcastle N. H. Soc. i. t. 1. Coast of Northumberland.
3. *Balænoptera Physalus*; *Balæna Physalus*; *B. Musculus* and *B. Boops*, Linn. S. N.; *B. rostrata*, Müller; *Rorqual de la Méditerranée*, Cuvier, Oss. Fos.

The three Linnæan species were established on three plates, one by Martens and the others by Sibbald; Martens' appears to differ from Sibbald's in the imperfection of the figure and description, and Sibbald's from one another in the state of the animal when figured, one having the throat dilated by the accumulation of gas beneath the tongue and the other not.

There is a second species of this genus found on the Dutch coast, which has the upper jaw nearly as wide as the lower. I have no doubt it visits us occasionally; it is the *B. Boops* of Rudolphi and the *Rorqual du Nord* of M. Cuvier, Oss. Foss.

Fam. II. CATODONTIDÆ.

4. *Catodon macrocephalus*, Linn.? O. Fabricius.
5. *Physeter Tursio*, Linn. Scotland, Sibbald.

Cuvier denies the existence of this species, and Mr. Bell has overlooked the excellent figure of it in Sibbald, 'Phal.' t. 1. f. a, which represents it $\frac{1}{2}$ nd of its natural size. It is well known to whalers as the *black fish*.

Fam. III. DELPHINIDÆ.

6. *Hyperoodon Hunteri*, Hunter, Phil. Trans. lxxvii. t. 19, with the dorsal fin behind the middle of the back.

We have a head of this genus in the Museum, from the Orkneys, four times as large as Hunter's specimen: the elevated crests of the maxillary bones are thickened, so that their inner surfaces nearly touch in front of the blower. I suspect it may be a distinct species.

7. *Hyperoodon Butzkopf*, Lacép., Dale's Harwich, t. 14, with the dorsal fin on the centre of the back.

8. *Delphinorhynchus Sowerbyi*; *Physeter bidens*, Sow. Brit. Misc. t. 1; *D. Sowerbyi*, Desm.; *Delphinus micropterus*, Cuvier, R. A., F. Cuv. Cetac. t. 8. f. 1, t. 7. skull; *D. Dalei*, Lesson.

Mr. James Sowerby at once recognised the skull of this animal in the figures of the skull of *Delphinus micropterus* above cited, so that this species was described and figured by Sowerby many years before its appearance on the coast of France. The French authors have universally overlooked the form of the head and position of the dorsal, and erroneously referred Sowerby's figures to *Hyperoodon*.

9. *Delphinus Delphis*, F. Cuv. Man. Lithog.

We have three specimens from the British coast in the British Museum.

10. *Delphinus Tursio*, Hunter, Phil. Trans. lxxxvii. t. 18; *D. truncatus*, Montague, Wern. Trans. iii. 75. t. 3.

O. Fabricius and Montague described this species as whitish beneath; Schlegel figured it as black above and below.

I have a drawing made by R. Templeton, Esq., from a specimen caught on the south coast of Ireland; it is not in Thompson's list of Irish species.

11. *Lagenorhynchus albirostris*, Gray, Zool. Erebus and Terror, t. ; *D. Tursio*, Brightwell, Ann. and Mag. N. H. 1846, t. 2.

Mr. Brightwell has kindly sent me for examination the head of his specimen; the nose is not longer than the length of the brain-cavity, and rapidly tapers in front with concave sides. The teeth are not half the size of those of *D. Tursio*, and it is at once distinguished from that species by the whiteness extending to the upper part of the beak. This and *Grampus Cuvieri* are most interesting additions to our fauna. We have the skulls of two other species of this genus in the British Museum collection.

12. *Orca gladiator*; *Delphinus Orca*, Linn., Schlegel, Abhand. t. 7 and 8.

Hunter's figure (copied by Bell) has the spot over instead of behind the eye. The figure in the 'Mag. Nat. Hist.' is better in this respect.

13. *Globiocephalus Melas*, Lesson; *D. Melas*, Trail; *D. deductor*, Scoresby; *D. globiceps*, Cuv.

The skull of the specimen described by Dr. Trail was recently sent by that naturalist to the British Museum, and we have also a young specimen.

14. *Grampus Cuvieri*; *Delphinus griseus*, Cuvier.

The Rev. Charles Bury sent me the head of this species, which was taken on the coast of the Isle of Wight in 1845. The animal is black above and whitish beneath, not gray as Cuvier's name would indicate; the figure first sent him from which he described it was of that colour, and he mistook it for the real one.

15. *Phocæna communis*, Lesson; *D. Phocæna*, Linn., F. Cuv. Mam. Lithog. t.

16. *Beluga Catodon*; *Physeter Catodon*, Linn. S. N. from Sibbald; *Balæna albicans*, Müller; *D. leucas*, Pallas.

We have a fine large specimen of this species in the British Museum.

17. *Monodon Monoceros*, Linn.

I may add that the characters of the genera and species are given in the monograph of Cetacea in the Zoology of the Erebus and Terror.

The Finner, *Balenoptera Physalus*, appears to elongate the part of the body between the fins as it arrives at maturity; in the small ones (females?), from fourteen to twenty feet long, the pectoral fins are about one-third, and the dorsal two-thirds of the length from the end of the nose; but in the larger specimens, male and female, the middle of the body appears to lengthen twice as fast as the other parts, for in these the pectoral is about one-quarter, and the dorsal three-quarters the entire length from the end of the nose.

XIII.—*Horæ Zoologicae*. By Sir WILLIAM JARDINE, Bart., F.R.S.E. & F.L.S.

No. VII. *Notice of some Birds from Western Africa*.

By the attention of a friend in Liverpool we have received a small collection of birds procured by the vessels trading to the Bonny and Old Calabar rivers, and as the species from these regions are comparatively inaccessible to the naturalist, except under great danger and privation, we have thought that a list, with remarks, might not be unacceptable to the ornithological readers of the 'Annals.' One species we have been unable to reconcile with any that has hitherto come under our notice, and have given it as undescribed.

Milvus parasiticus—differs from specimens received from Southern Africa only in being slightly less and in the tint of the plumage being more sombre. Old Calabar river.