

The opportunity of studying this parasite must indeed be a rare one, since the next naturalist who investigated and described "*Ascaris simplex*" was Dujardin.<sup>1</sup> He described the spicules as unequal, measuring 15 and 27 mm. in length in a specimen 79 mm. long; the ventral surface bore eight to ten papillæ; the female was 100 mm. in length; the ova measured 0·041–0·043 mm.; the vulva was situated far forward, so that the anterior and posterior regions exhibited a proportion of 5 to 12 or 2 to 5. The specimens were found in a Dolphin captured near the Maldives. The enormous length and marked inequality of the cirri, the position of the vulva, the size of the ova, the number of papillæ, all go to prove that the species was not the same as that which we have described above. From the size and inequality of the cirri it may indeed be inferred that the form studied by Dujardin was not an *Ascaris* at all.

Krabbe<sup>2</sup> was the first to distinguish *Ascaris simplex* from the other Ascarids found in Seals and Dolphins; that is to say, from (1) *Ascaris osculata*, Rudolphi, from *Phoca grænlandica* and *Phoca barbata*, *Halichærus grypus*, *Cystophora cristata*, and *Trichechus rosmarus*; (2) *Ascaris decipiens*, Krabbe, from *Phoca grænlandica*, *Phoca barbata*, *Phoca hispida*, *Phoca vitulina*, *Cystophora cristata*, and *Trichechus rosmarus*; (3) *Ascaris lobulata*, Schneider, from *Platanista gangetica*; (4) *Ascaris conocephala*, Krabbe, from *Delphinus delphis* and *Clymenia*. He described *Ascaris simplex* from *Lagenophrys albirostris*, *Beluga leucas*, *Hyperoodon rostratus*, and *Monodon monoceros*, and figures the upper lip and the posterior extremity of the male.

The *Ascaris patagonica*, which I have described<sup>3</sup> from an *Otaria jubata* captured off Patagonia by Professor Behn on his voyage round the world, is entirely different from *Ascaris simplex*, as a glance at the figure will at once show.

That this parasite, hitherto found only in Dolphins, should occur in *Otaria jubata*, Forster, is somewhat remarkable, as no other case is known of a species infesting both Seals and Cetacea.

## 2. *Ascaris spiculigera*, Rud. (Pl. I. figs. 5–7).

Specimen labelled: "Ascaris from the stomach of *Phalacrocorax verrucosus*,<sup>4</sup> January 1874, Kerguelen Island (Shag)."

The vessel contained thirty-eight Nematodes, of which thirty-six belonged to the above species.

The body is short and thick; the smallest specimens, still sexually immature, were 5·44 mm. in length by 0·27 mm. in breadth. The cuticle exhibits regular transverse wrinkles, 0·003 mm. in breadth. The œsophagus measures  $\frac{1}{43}$ , and the tail  $\frac{1}{35}$  of the total

<sup>1</sup> Histoire des Helminthes, Paris, 1845, pp. 220, 221.

<sup>2</sup> Kong. dansk. Vidensk. Forh., 1878, pp. 47–49, fig. 2, tab. i. fig. 4.

<sup>3</sup> Archiv f. Naturgesch., Jahrg. xlvi. Bd. i., 1880, pp. 41, 42, pl. iii. fig. 1.

<sup>4</sup> Zool. Chall. Exp., vol. ii. pt. viii., *Phalacrocorax verrucosus*, Cab., p. 122.