

they diverged from each other posteriorly so as to admit between them in the middle line an anterior or nasal prolongation of the frontal bone. The anterior border of the mesethmoid was vertical, but did not quite reach the anterior nares. The anterior end of the spout-like vomer terminated a little in front of the anterior border of the nasals. The horizontal part of the premaxilla was relatively short, and gave origin to a nasal tubercle close to the floor of the anterior nares; in one of the larger skulls the depth of the bone from the anterior nares to the alveolar border was 45 mm., in one of the smaller only 18 mm. The ascending part of the premaxilla mounted upwards and formed the lateral boundary of the nares, and by its upper end articulated with somewhat more than the anterior half of the outer border of the nasal bone. The superior maxilla articulated with the rest of the outer border of the nasal, and completely shut out the frontal from this border. A large, much divided maxillo-turbinal occupied the interval between the mesethmoid and the outer wall of the nose, but it did not come quite so far forwards as in the Elephant Seal. The plane of the anterior nares sloped downwards and forwards from the nasal bones to the premaxilla, and the opening was well in front of both the antorbital process and infraorbital foramen. Although the large males possessed massive canines, yet the anterior end of the superior maxillæ with their canines did not lie so near to the transverse plane of the incisor teeth as in the Elephant Seal.

The postorbital processes were transverse in direction, much larger than the antorbital in all the crania, but in the two large crania the antorbitals were several times larger than in the smaller skulls. From Table IV. it will be seen that the skulls differed greatly in width in this region, and this difference in relation to their almost equal length was especially marked in the Maldonado and Chincha Island specimens. In the West Falkland adult a strong fibrous band passed from the postorbital process to the zygoma, and completed the orbital ring posteriorly.

The hard palate had the characteristically elongated form of the genus. In the larger skulls the concavity was much deeper in proportion to the size of the specimens, and the borders of the palate behind the molar teeth converged more closely together than in the smaller crania. The distance from the last molar tooth to the posterior edge of the hard palate was 101 mm. in the large West Falkland Island skull. The greatest palatal width of the larger skulls was either between the canines or the more anterior post-canine teeth, and in the smaller skulls immediately behind the last molar. The premaxillæ were not so distinctly triangular as in the Elephant Seal, and each contained a well-defined naso-palatine foramen. The most anterior part of the palato-maxillary suture was triangular, and either just behind or opposite the last molar tooth. The palatal surface of the palate bone formed nearly one-half of the length of the hard palate, but in one of the larger crania the proportion varied on the two sides owing to these bones not being symmetrical. The dentary border of the superior maxilla, although continued behind the last molar, yet did not nearly reach the length of the