

Macrorhinus leoninus (Linnæus). Elephant Seal. Southern and Antarctic Oceans.

Phoca leonina, Linn., Syst. Nat., ed. x. p. 37, 1758.

Phoca elephantina, Molina, Saggio sul Stor. Nat. del Chili, p. 280, 1782.

Morunga elephantina, Gray, Zool. Voy. "Erebus" and "Terror," p. 8, pls. ix., x., 1844.

Macrorhinus anguirostris, Gill, Proc. Essex Inst., vol. v. p. 13, 1866.

This animal has been described in so much detail in Part I. of this Report that it is not necessary for me to repeat its characters here.

Dr. Gill, Mr. Allen, and other American zoologists have regarded the Californian Sea Elephant as distinct from the southern species, and have named it *Macrorhinus anguirostris*. Dr. Gill's description¹ was based on the examination of the skull of a female from Lower California, and the name *Macrorhinus anguirostris* was conferred owing to its narrowed and produced snout, as compared with that of a skull from the South Seas, figured by Dr. Gray in the Zoology of the "Erebus" and "Terror," which was at one time regarded as an adult female, but which is now known to be a male not full grown. If this character of the snout be the only difference between them, and Mr. Allen has stated that the Northern and Southern Sea Elephants differ very little in size, colour, and other external features, it cannot have much if any value as a mark of specific difference, for from my comparison of the male and female crania of the Southern Elephant Seal (Part I.) it will be seen that the male is much broader than the female in the prenasal region, owing to the greater size of the incisor and canine teeth.

The differences between the skulls of *Cystophora cristata* and *Macrorhinus leoninus* are seen to most advantage in the region of the premaxillary bones and anterior nares, in the shape of the tympanic bulla and the relative length of the external auditory meatus, in the position of the orbital orifice of the infraorbital canal, the relative size of the mastoid temporal, the place of articulation of the vomer with the palate bone, and the configuration of the lower jaw. When taken collectively these differences are, I think, sufficient to justify the separation of the genus *Macrorhinus* from *Cystophora*.

TRICHECHIDÆ.

The family Trichechidæ contains only a single genus amongst existing mammals, although two fossil genera have been described, *Alactherium* and *Trichechodon*. The existing genus is usually called *Trichechus*, but the old Linnæan term *Odobænus* has recently been revived for it by some zoologists, and Allen has consequently named the family Odobænidæ.²

¹ Proc. Essex Inst., vol. v. p. 13, 1866; and Proc. Chicago Acad. Sci., vol. i. p. 33, 1866.

² I may refer to Mr. Allen's valuable History of the North American Pinnipeds for a full discussion of the question of the generic term which should be given to the Walrus.