

be an individual abnormality, and referred the specimen to *Arctocephalus delalandii*. Mr. Allen has accepted Dr. Gray's view and has made *Arctocephalus schisthyperöes* a synonym of the Seal which has been variously named *Arctocephalus pusillus*, *Arctocephalus antarcticus*, and *Arctocephalus delalandii*. Professor Flower states that a skull of an *Otaria* (*Arctocephalus*) *pusilla* in the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons of England¹ is very like the specimen to which I gave the name of *Arctocephalus schisthyperöes*. Mr. J. W. Clark also refers it to the same species, and considers that the cleft palate is an individual variation similar to what he has seen in a skull of *Otaria* (*Arctocephalus*) *ursina*.²

I now agree with the view which has been expressed both by Dr. Gray and Mr. Clark that the cleft condition of the palate is an individual variation, due, without doubt,

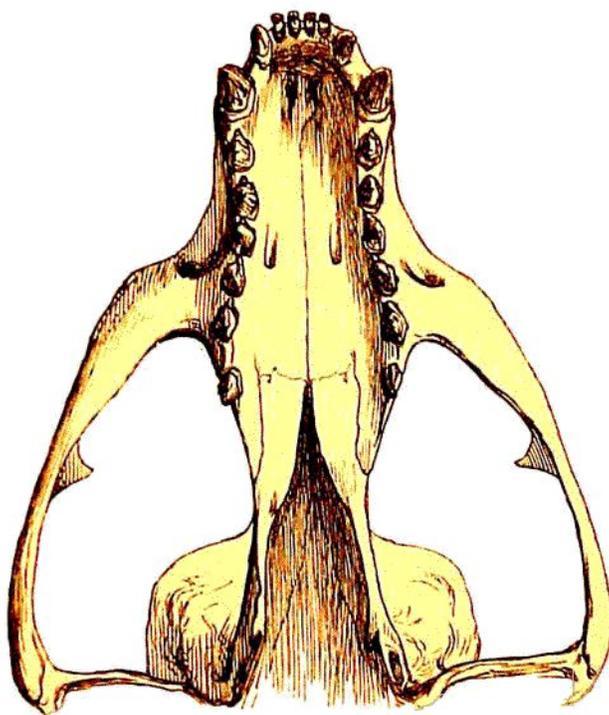


FIG. 2.—This figure represents the palate of the Seal which I named *Arctocephalus schisthyperöes*; reproduced from *Journal of Anatomy and Physiology*.

to imperfect ossification. But I cannot accept Dr. Gray's statement that the cranium which I described was that of a half-grown animal, for although the sutures between the facial bones are distinct, those of the cranial box have practically disappeared, so that I am still of opinion that the skull is adult though not aged. Undoubtedly the skull is very much smaller than that (apparently an old male) in the British Museum, to which Dr. Gray originally gave the name of *Arctocephalus delalandii*, and which would now be called

¹ *Catalogue of Bones of Mammalia*, pt. ii. p. 193, 1884.

² *Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.*, March 18, 1884, p. 194. In Mr. Clark's explanation of figure 6, in which a view of the palate is given, *cinerea* is obviously a misprint for *ursina*.