

PART IV.

VISCERA OF ELEPHANT SEAL.

The heart and some of the abdominal viscera, and the male and female genitalia, of specimens of *Macrorhinus leoninus* had been removed and preserved in spirit.

The heart was from the female killed at Christmas Harbour, and was as big as the heart of a large bullock; it showed a slight cleft where the two interventricular grooves met at the apex, and each surface was almost equally divided between the two ventricles.

A broad flattened thymus gland overlapped the ascending aorta and trunk of the pulmonary artery. It measured 150 mm. in transverse and 154 mm. in antero-posterior diameter. It was unequally divided into two lateral lobes, of which the left was about twice the size of the right, and the left in its turn was almost completely subdivided into two portions by intermediate connective tissue. Each lobe was subdivided into numerous lobules, which had no appearance of having undergone fatty degeneration. Two lymphatic glands about the size of walnuts were attached by areolar tissue to the ventral surface of the thymus.

When the thymus was removed the ascending aorta was seen to emerge from under cover of the pulmonary arterial trunk. Its transverse diameter externally about the middle of its length was 66 mm., but immediately between the origin of the left subclavian and the attachment of the ductus arteriosus the transverse diameter of the arch was only 34 mm. A great contrast was presented between the dilated condition of the ascending and transverse parts of the arch as compared with the descending part, for immediately beyond the ductus arteriosus the transverse diameter of the aorta was only 29 mm. The rapid diminution in the calibre of the artery immediately beyond the origins of the great vessels for the head, neck, and anterior limbs would without doubt facilitate the flow of blood into these vessels.

The ascending aorta close to its origin gave rise to the pair of coronary arteries for the supply of the heart's walls. From the middle of its ventral surface a thymic branch nearly as large as the human radial entered the thymus and was distributed to its substance. From the transverse part of the arch the wide but short innominate artery,