

known sometimes to severely lacerate the hunter. The only way to kill one is to try and get a blow at his throat. This is accomplished by one person striking him behind, when he will jump quickly around to face his enemy and raise up his head, then a second man seizes the opportunity, while his throat and neck are exposed, to strike a hard blow under the chin. Even so, it sometimes takes quite a while to vanquish him. The so-called Square flipper is the largest of the seal family in our waters. It sometimes grows to an enormous size. His correct name is the Bearded seal (*Phoca barbata*). It is becoming very rare now-a-days, though it is difficult to account for this fact, as very few of them are ever killed. Another large seal which inhabits the Gulf of St. Lawrence but does not appear on the Eastern sea-board of our island is known as the Horse head (*Halichoerus Grypus*). Our ice hunters know literally nothing of this animal, and are in the habit of confounding him with the Greenland or Harp seal, because like the latter the young when first brought to the world are clothed in a soft white coat of fur. But it is a larger animal than the harp and entirely different in its habits.

The common Bay or shore seal (*Phoca vitulina*) is that prettily marked or spotted animal which is to be seen almost anywhere during summertime. This is the seal which frequents the bays and estuaries, and ascends the rivers for long distances in pursuit of salmon and sea trout. I have seen them fully 100 miles or more in the interior. They are great poachers, and will rob the fishermen's salmon nets under their very noses.

There is another variety of seal sometimes found on the ice floes, and I believe common on the Labrador and further north, to which I can find no reference in any work on Natural history. It is a small short thick bodied animal, with a head and snout