

out a long distance; the rise and fall of the tides is excessive, the current is strong, and the descriptions of the ice rafting, and jamming in that strait are not pleasant. It is the opinion of very experienced ice-masters, that no large body of seals pass through in October and join the annual migration. However this may be, there is no necessity for the seals to come through Hudson Strait, for Eclipse Sound, Cott Inlet, or Home Sound would provide them with egress if there was an inclination to go, or if the ice permitted them. Unfortunately, we have little or no communication with Hudson's Bay. We have no account of these seals, whether they are increasing or diminishing, which is a very important point.

Although we have no certain knowledge of these seals, yet it is reasonable to suppose that they are no mean "ice borers," for Hudson's Bay must be fresher than Davis Strait water, and therefore the ice will be more brittle and difficult to maintain the "bore hole." Not only so, but they always ride "fast ice," *i. e.*, ice connected with the shore. They certainly do not experience the vicissitudes of the seals tossed on the eastern coast of Newfoundland, or driven into the Atlantic; so that probably time has influenced or modified their form to some extent, owing to their comparatively easy life. The Gulf of St. Lawrence Harp seal is a shorter and stouter seal than the eastern body; it always rides "fast ice." In some ways it appears probable that these two very different bodies in some respects, have now, or have had, some connection. The Gulf seal performs a long journey to accomplish the desired end, *viz.*, a more varied and extensive supply of food, and the propagation of its