

The Cephalopoda Collected by the Canadian Arctic Expedition, 1913-18

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The cephalopods collected by the Canadian Arctic Expedition during the years 1913 to 1916 comprise only a few fragments, principally mandibles, taken from the stomachs of two species of seals, the Bearded Seal, *Erignathus barbatus* (Erxleben), and the Common Rough Seal, *Phoca hispida* Schreber. In the light of present knowledge alone, proper identification of such material at the very least is hazardous. But from the notes, and more especially from the figures given, it is just possible that a way will be left open for throwing a more illuminating light upon the material at some time in the future.

It is hoped that the bibliographical portion of the present paper may prove of more immediate utility. It is unfortunate that knowledge of the cephalopods of the American Arctic is so incomplete, scattering, and fragmentary, as the study of this list shows.

MATERIAL COLLECTED

For convenience in reference, the material collected is listed in order according to the numbers under which it is entered in the author's card register.

[726]

Numerous fragments taken from stomach of *Phoca hispida* Schreber, station 29f, ca. 30 fathoms, lat. $70^{\circ} 13' N.$, long. $140^{\circ} 50' W.$, a little east of Alaska-Yukon boundary, April 4, 1914.

The material here entered consists of 3 fragmentary and semi-digested buccal masses of cephalopods, together with a few odd shreds of tissue and some 58 fragments of beaks, the latter consisting of *half* mandibles only. Not even those persisting in the buccal tissues are entire. Each is split mesially. Evidently the median region of the mandibles is not only narrow in this species but more than ordinarily weak. In fact, one is reminded very much of the appearance of the valves of the chiton *Schizoplax* after the dissolution of the median uncalcified wedge. There are other peculiarities of shape and proportion (Fig. 1). On the whole the mandibles are fairly uniform in size. None

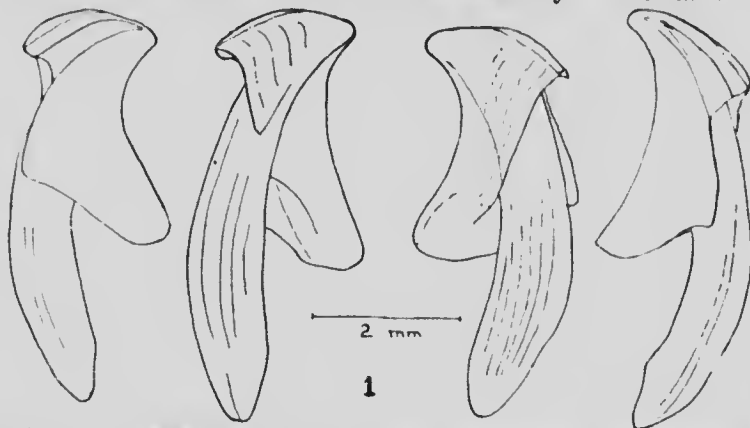


Fig. 1. —The four mandibular fragments from the buccal mass of a cephalopod taken at Station 29f [726]; camera outline; the two outermost figures are internal views.