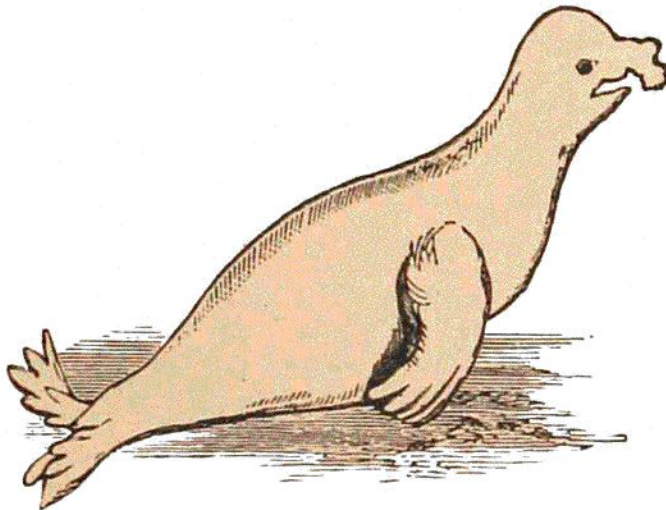


of the animals of the group represented, which is just going to land from the sea on the left-hand side of the landscape. The old male elephants were described by the sealers of Heard Island as having a trunk 10 inches in length. These old males were called "Beach-masters." Anson's sailors called the largest male at Juan Fernandez the "Bashaw."

I obtained from a harpooner, on board one of the whaling schooners which we fell in with at Kerguelen's Land, a very well executed carving in a soft volcanic stone from Heard Island, which represented two men skinning a dead Beach-master. Unfortunately, this was lost with other curiosities in transit from the ship, after we reached home. In this, the trunk of the old male Elephant was shown hanging like a short flaccid tube from the snout. It is shown somewhat thus in Leseur's figure, drawn for Peron, in the case of the animal represented as lying on beach in the foreground ; but the



DRAWING OF OLD MALE SEA-ELEPHANT.

(By a Harpooner.)

trunk there is probably shown much too prominent and solid-looking. The old sealers used to eat the trunks as a tit-bit, calling them "snotters." Goodridge speaks of it as "a sort of fleshy skin, which hangs over the nose." In Anson's Voyage it is described as hanging down five or six inches below the end of the upper

jaw. Peron says very little in his account of the Sea-Elephant about the trunk.*

I give here a woodcut, from a rough drawing made for me by the harpooner above referred to, of a "Beach-master," with its trunk in the inflated condition.

The trunk, when the animal is enraged, is inflated and erected, being blown full of air. From the drawing it appears that Anson's figure is probably nearly correct in the matter of the trunk, as it certainly is in the manner in which the tail is curled up into the air in the enraged beast.

The trunk is produced by inflation of a loose tubular sac of

* For Peron's "Histoire de l'Eléphant Marin," see l.c. T. II., p. 32. A translation of it is given in Brewster's "Edinburgh Journal of Science," 1827, Vol. II., p. 73.