

In transverse section this species is characterised by the conspicuously dense cuticle and the well-developed hypoderm. The nerve-cords are large and connate, forming a somewhat elliptical area in the ventral indentation of the thick circular muscular coat. The median neural canal is best seen superiorly in the ganglionic region. In the anterior third of the body the longitudinal coat is symmetrically arranged in eight divisions, each tightly bound internally by the translucent sarcolemma. On each side is a great ventral mass, above which is another about half the bulk, followed dorsally by a much smaller division and then a larger median one. If the strong band passing from the second interval (*i.e.*, between the second and third muscles from the dorsal middle line) to the ventral border on each side of the nerve-area represents the oblique muscle, then each great inferior division is homologous with the longitudinal ventral of other forms. The position of the nerve-cords, moreover, at once differentiates this species from such types as *Notomastus*, in which the cords are wholly within the muscular layers. This form, indeed, connects *Cirratulus* and *Chætozone* with the Hælmintidæ.

Notomastus, Sars.

Notomastus agassizii,¹ n. sp. (Pl. XLVI. fig. 3; Pl. XXIV_A. fig. 15).

Habitat.—Dredged at Station 47 (off the coast of New York), May 7, 1873; lat. 41° 14' N., long. 65° 45' W.; depth, 1340 fathoms; surface temperature, 42°·0; sea-bottom, blue mud.

A fragment of the anterior region of a form apparently identical was brought up with the sounding-line off San Antonio, Cape Verde Islands. The specimen is small, and has been dried.

In common with many European examples, the specimens consist only of the anterior bristle-bearing region and a portion of the succeeding. The length of such fragments is therefore of little moment, but it may be mentioned that the largest has a diameter of 6 mm. at its widest part.

In external appearance (Pl. XLVI. fig. 3) this form very closely resembles the common British species (*Capitella capitata*). The snout, perhaps, is a little more acute, and there is no trace of pigment-specks. The buccal and the anterior regions appear to correspond in the same way, the latter having eleven series of bristle-bundles, each segment being marked by a median furrow, which runs quite round in the line of the bristle-tufts. The surface presents the usual tessellated aspect.

The bristles agree with those in the British species, and no appreciable difference can be detected in regard to the hooks (Pl. XXIV_A. fig. 15). The minute denticulations in the crown of the latter are feebly developed, indeed, they are hardly distinguishable. A

¹ Named after Alexander Agassiz.