

**SKELETON.**—The four skeletons consisted of one female and three males. The female (No. 2) skeleton was fully ossified. One male (No. 3) was fully ossified; a second (No. 1) had the epiphyses completely fused with the shafts of the long bones only at one extremity, at the opposite a groove of demarcation was still visible; the third (No. 4) again was a much younger animal, and the epiphyses at both ends of the long bones were separable from the shafts.

**Skull.**—Along with the specimens of *Arctocephalus australis* from the Messier Channel I have examined two skulls from Tuesday Bay, Desolation Island, Strait of Magellan, which were collected by Dr. R. O. Cunningham when acting as naturalist on H.M.S. "Nassau."<sup>1</sup> In all the crania from the Messier Channel, the basi-occipito-sphenoid joint was ossified, and in one specimen only (No. 4) was the intra-sphenoidal joint unossified. The Desolation Island specimens were aged crania and in all probability males.<sup>2</sup> The dimensions of all these skulls are recorded in Table VII.

TABLE VII.—CRANIA OF SOUTH AMERICAN FUR-SEAL.

	♂. No. 1.	♂. No. 3.	♂. No. 4.	♀. No. 2.	♂. Desolation Island.	♂. Desolation Island.
	mm.	mm.	mm.	mm.	mm.	mm.
Extreme condylo-premaxillary length, . . . . .	231	233	206	202	241	245
From front of premaxilla to occipital crest, . . . . .	225	228	195	179	228	236
From basion to optic foramen, . . . . .	83	94	86	94	97	103
Extreme interzygomatic width, . . . . .	...	148	118	116	...	145
Extreme width immediately behind external meatus, . . . . .	129	138	104	107	142	125
Greatest width of palate, . . . . .	38	...	31	28	33	33
Width between outer sides of base of upper canines, . . . . .	52	55	...	34	50	...
Width between outer sides of base of lateral incisors, . . . . .	26	25	24	19	29	...
Width between outer sides of base of lower canines, . . . . .	37	35	28	20	...	...
Length of palate to incisor teeth, . . . . .	101	...	86	85	106	108
From basion to middle of occipital crest, . . . . .	79	87	77	67	82	83
Smallest interfrontal width in plane of upper surface, . . . . .	31	...	29	25	25	...
Length of nasals, . . . . .	36	...	30	30	...	...
Greatest width of anterior nares, . . . . .	27	...	24	26	31	...
Vertical diameter of mes-ethmoid at anterior nares, . . . . .	...	...	...	...	28	...
From antero-inferior angle of mes-ethmoid to central incisor, . . . . .	...	...	...	...	52	...
Greatest width at postorbital processes, . . . . .	56	...	42	37	...	...
Greatest length of mandible, . . . . .	162	...	133	139	...	...
Greatest width at condyles of lower jaw, . . . . .	119	...	111	105	...	...

The Desolation Island skulls and Nos. 1 and 3 from the Messier Channel possessed occipital crests and sagittal crests extending more or less forward into the frontal region, the greatest elevation of which was 10 mm. In No. 4, a younger male from the Messier Channel, and in the adult female, these crests were scarcely developed at all.

<sup>1</sup> These skulls were presented by Dr. Cunningham to the Anatomical Museum of the University of Edinburgh. See his work already cited on p. 30 for an account of the seals in this locality.

<sup>2</sup> Some years ago I left these skulls from Desolation Island, for examination, with the late Dr. J. E. Gray, who made some notes on them in the *Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.*, vol. iv. ser. 4, p. 264, 1869. He referred them to the species which he had described as "*Euotaria nigrescens*, the usual Fur-Seal of the Falkland Islands and other parts of the coast of South-West America," the same animal as is described in the text as *Arctocephalus australis*.