Occipital crests well marked, no sagittal crest, ridges at upper border of barbata. temporal fossa distinct. No definite ridge along line of sagittal suture. Hard palate with posterior border truncated and immediately in front both of the hamular-pterygoids and the malo-zygomatic articulations. Posterior edge of vomer immediately above this border and at once articulating with vomerine crest of palate bones; vertical diameter of vomer short, that of posterior nares contracted, and about one-half the transverse diameter. Tympanic bulla somewhat more swollen, the apex is more truncated and the outer part of its under surface is rougher than in Phoca vitulina; it is also prolonged outwards into a much thicker wall for the external auditory meatus, the aperture of which looks forwards. Greatest width of zygoma about middle of arch and interzygomatic width exceeding greatest cranial width. Post-canine teeth not set closely together, nor oblique. Subcondyloid process of mandible broadly triangular, inverted, distinct from the tubercle at the angle; lower border of body more incurved than in Phoca vitulina, so that the transverse diameter between the angles is much less in Phoca granlandica than in Phoca vitulina; coronoid long and pointed.

Phoca hispida, Schreber. Ringed-Seal or Floe-Rat. North Atlantic and Arctic Oceans.

Phoca hispida, Schreber, Die Säugthiere, iii. p. 312, pl. lxxxvi., 1778.

- " fætida, Fabricius in Müller, Zool. Dan. Prodr., p. viii., 1776, and Fauna groenlaudica, p. 13, 1780.
- " annellata, Nilsson, Skand. Faun., i. p. 362, 1820.

The smallest species of the genus.

Interorbital part of frontal more constricted than in any other seal. crests feeble, no sagittal crest, ridge at upper border of temporal fossa distinct; no definite ridge along line of sagittal suture. Nasal bones elongated and attenuated between frontal, not ankylosed together. Premaxilla articulating with about anterior fourth of outer border of nasal. Hard palate cleft at posterior border though not so deep as in Phoca vitulina, the base of the triangle between the hamulars being wider than the sides; posterior border of vomer scarcely visible in cleft, and running very obliquely forwards for some distance before articulating with vomerine crest of palate bone. Transverse diameter of orbit more capacious than in Phoca vitulina and Phoca granlandica. Tympanic bulla and external meatus closely resembling Phoca vitulina. Foramen lacerum posterius very capacious, basi-occipital perforated mesially so that basi-occipital is largely unossified. Post-canines not crowded and not obliquely set, frequently quadricuspidate, the second cusp being the largest. Subcondyloid process of mandible not triangular, but elongated into a vertical ridge, somewhat inverted and forming the posterior border of the bone, but separated by a notch from the tubercle at the angle; lower border of body incurved opposite the last