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### BRAIN OF ELEPHANT SEAL (Pls. VIII., IX.).

*Weight and External Form of the Brain.*—The brain of *Macrorhinus leoninus* which I have examined was removed from the skull of the young female (*d*) killed at Christmas Harbour, Kerguelen, on January 4, 1874, and at once placed in spirit for preservation, without the pia mater having been stripped off. It reached me in good condition, and weighed, after several years' immersion in spirit, 1 lb. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  oz. avoirdupois (17 $\frac{3}{4}$  oz.). As the brain loses considerably in weight from the action of spirit, the normal weight of this organ is always greater during life than after being in spirit, so that the fresh brain would have weighed in all probability several ounces more than is expressed by the above figures. As the male brain, where the body of the animal exceeds in size and weight that of the female, is heavier than the female brain, in all probability the brain of the adult male Elephant Seal would be several ounces more than that of this young female.

The principal dimensions of this brain were taken with callipers, and are stated in millimetres in Table XI.

As the brain loses both weight and bulk, and to some extent shape, after prolonged immersion in spirit, it is necessary to correct, as far as possible, the dimensions and form of a hardened brain. This may to some extent be done by taking a cast of the cranial cavity of the skull of the animal. I accordingly asked my assistant, Mr. H. J. Stiles, M.B., to make a cast of the cranial cavity of the skull of the Elephant Seal from