

four arms, of which the longest is about 14 cm. long, and contains six suckers. The innermost of these, judging from the way in which the arms slope towards each other, must have been either that nearest the mouth or the second one; it is about 1 cm. in diameter, while the distal one on the fragment measures 1.5 cm. The suckers consist of hollow muscular bulbs like those of *Cirroteuthis*, embedded in the comparatively loose tissues of the arm, but the ridge marking off the true cavity from the suctorial disk is less marked, and the interior seems to have been lined by a kind of cuticle, which remains as a softened mass within it. The stellate form of the aperture, so distinctly marked in Verrill's figure of the hectocotylied arm (*op. cit.*, pl. li. fig. 4) is seen to some extent here, though the rays of the star are more numerous and much less prominent. The web itself is thick, tough, and very much wrinkled, and forms two or more circular folds around each sucker.

The portion of the arm is 12 cm. long and elliptical in section, the axes of the ellipse being 4.5 cm. and 7 cm. respectively. It seems to consist of a cylindrical core 3 cm. in diameter, composed of a gelatinous material containing numerous muscle-fibres embedded in it: around this is a quantity of connective tissue. Only on the inner aspect of the arm is any integument preserved; this is precisely similar in character to that surrounding the mouth, and contains four suckers, which are about 12 mm. in diameter and 3.5 cm. apart (measuring from centre to centre); they are arranged in a slightly wavy line.

The fragments above described agree so well in every particular with Professor Verrill's graphic description of his *Alloposus mollis*, that there can be no doubt they belong to that species.

When in Copenhagen the year before last, Professor Steenstrup showed me the type specimen of his *Haliphron atlanticus*, and I was at once struck by its remarkable resemblance to the hectocotylied arm of *Alloposus* as depicted by Verrill. The specimen is in fact a portion of an arm some 5 or 6 cm. in length, with two rows of very prominent beehive-shaped suckers, the apertures of which are markedly stellate in form.¹ Unfortunately the specimen has been somewhat macerated, having been found in the stomach of a shark, and no trace remains of the fringe of slender processes which forms such a conspicuous character in *Alloposus*.

Steenstrup's name was published nearly twenty years before Verrill's, and, in the event of the identity of the two genera being conclusively proved, must take precedence. The possibility must not be overlooked that the two forms may be two distinct species belonging to the same genus.

¹ The original description characterises the species by the resemblance of the lobate suckers to the half-opened flowers of the lily of the valley, *Convallaria majalis*, Stp., *op. cit.*, p. 332.