

Dimensions.

Length, total,	58 mm.	
End of body to mantle margin,	10 "	
	Right.	Left.
Length of first arm,	50 mm.	48 mm.
Length of second arm,	43 "	40 "
Length of third arm,	38 "	38 "
Length of fourth arm,	30 "	32 "

This specimen is probably immature, but its characters are so well marked that I have little hesitation in making it the type of a new species; it differs from *Octopus pusillus*, Gould, in the very small size of the umbrella, and from *Octopus aranea*, d'Orb., which it resembles in the length of its arms, in the fact that here it is the dorsal, there the ventral arms, which markedly exceed the others. The arms are much longer than in *Octopus eudora*, Gray.

Octopus macropus, Risso.

1814. *Octopus ruber* (?), Raf., Précis découv. somiol., p. 28.
 1826. " *macropus*, Risso, Hist. Nat. Eur. Mérid., t. iv. p. 3.
 1826. " *Cuvierii*, d'Orb., Céph. acét.; Poulpes, pl. iv. (*nomen tantum*).
 1838. " *Cuvieri*, d'Orb., Céph. acét., p. 18; Poulpes, pls. i., iv., xxvii.
 1851. " *macropus*, Vér., Céph. médit., p. 27, pl. x.
 1869. " " Targ., Cef. Mus. Firenze., p. 23.
 1869. " *Cuvieri*, Targ., Cef. Mus. Firenze., p. 24.
 1886. " " Appellöf, Japanska Ceph., p. 6, pl. i. fig. 6.

Habitat.—Yokohama, Japan, purchased in the market. One specimen, ♀.

Canaries, Indian Ocean, Red Sea (d'Orbigny); Japan (Appellöf); Mediterranean (Risso, d'Orbigny, Vérany, &c.); Adriatic (Ninni).

This specimen agrees with d'Orbigny's description in every particular except that the "cirrhe postérieure médiane" could not be found, but as the skin in that region was much wrinkled and contracted, that is not a matter of much moment, especially as, according to Vérany, its presence is not constant.

The synonymy of this species requires a little notice; and in regard to it two questions arise:—Are *Octopus macropus* and *Octopus cuvieri* to be regarded as one species?—and if so, what name is that species to bear?

Two of the greatest authorities who have written on the subject, Vérany and d'Orbigny, unite them, but under different names, while the only modern writer who separates them is Targioni-Tozzetti (*loc. cit.*). Not having sufficient material to form an opinion on the subject, I wrote asking the opinion of my friend Dr. Jatta, of the Naples Zoological Station, who has an extensive knowledge of the Cephalopoda of the