

the cruise, and, secondly, because of the pale semitransparent appearance which suggested its specific name. It seems better, however, to omit this and to leave the depth from which the specimen was taken an open question; there was, so far as I can ascertain, no objective evidence that the animal had been taken at the surface, and in the only two cases in which examples of this genus have been obtained the dredge or trawl had been to a great depth. Professor Steenstrup's five specimens of his *Bolitæna microcotyla*, a form nearly allied to this, were all taken in the surface net with Medusæ and other pelagic organisms at very distant localities.

The question as to the specific identity, or otherwise, of this form with that described by Verrill seems at present to admit of no decision; the extent of variation in a genus consisting at present of only two specimens is, of course, quite uncertain, the more so as these belong apparently to different sexes. It seems, therefore, that the interests of science will be best served by recording the two as distinct, though I have a strong suspicion that they will eventually be proved to be identical, and had the knowledge of Verrill's species come to me in time I should not have proposed a new name.

The present type resembles *Bolitæna*, Steenstrup, in the gelatinous consistency of the body, in the presence of a median septum in the branchial cavity, in the wide opening of the mantle, which extends to just behind the eyes, and in the preponderance of the third pair of arms. They differ, however, in a considerable number of important characters. In *Bolitæna microcotyla* the distance from the eye to the extremity of the arms is somewhat greater than from the eye to the end of the body, whereas in *Eledonella* it is only about half as great; and whilst in *Bolitæna* there are fourteen small widely separated suckers on the longest arm, in *Eledonella* there are sixteen larger ones closely placed. In *Bolitæna* the colour is a brownish-purple, with irregular dark brown mottlings, and a delicate web extends about halfway up the arms, while in *Eledonella* the colour is almost white, with elongated oval brownish spots, and the web extends only one-fourth up the dorsal arms, and to a somewhat less extent between the others.

The genus *Eledonella* furnishes one of the instances in which closely similar, if not identical, forms occur both in the Western Atlantic and the Western Pacific (compare pp. 184, 223).

Japetella,¹ Hoyle.

Body gelatinous in consistency and semitransparent, and more or less oblong in form. *Mantle-opening* very wide. *Siphon* provided with a *valve*. No *median septum* in the branchial cavity.

Arms unequal, and the longest only about equal in length to the body. *Umbrella* small, and the *suckers* arranged in a single series.

¹ Named in honour of Professor Japetus Steenstrup, whose brilliant researches have added so much to our knowledge of this group, and who examined this specimen and the one just described with peculiar interest.