

possible to ascertain that it does not form a terminal cone like that of *Ommastrephes* or *Taonius*.

*Dimensions.*

|   |          |                   |
|---|----------|-------------------|
| End of body to mantle-margin, . . . . . | 40 mm. - |                   |
| End of body to eye, . . . . .           | 50 "     |                   |
| Breadth of body, . . . . .              | 14 "     |                   |
| Breadth of head, . . . . .              | 18 "     |                   |
| Eye to edge of umbrella, . . . . .      | 10 "     |                   |
| Length of fin, . . . . .                | 7 "      |                   |
| Breadth of fin, . . . . .               | 16 "     |                   |
| Breadth of each lobe, . . . . .         | 6 "      |                   |
|   |          | Right.      Left. |
| Length of first arm, . . . . .          | 16.5 mm. | 16 mm.            |
| Length of second arm, . . . . .         | 16 "     | 16 "              |
| Length of third arm, . . . . .          | 15 "     | 15 "              |
| Length of fourth arm, . . . . .         | 15 "     | 15 "              |
| Length of tentacle, . . . . .           | 55 "     | 45 "              |

Notwithstanding the great distance between the localities where this species and Verrill's *Benthoteuthis megalops*<sup>1</sup> were captured, it seems quite possible that they may ultimately prove to be the same species. The chief differences seem to be the absence of the angular sinus in the eyelid in the Challenger specimen, the greater comparative size of the head, (though this may be explicable by the individual being smaller), and the suckers on the sessile arms being for the most part in two, not in four, series; but the two rows in the Challenger specimen are very irregular, and if but slightly more so might easily be regarded as four.

Verrill has called attention to certain embryonic characters in this genus, which are certainly very striking, namely, the size and position of the fins, the short arms, and more particularly the shape of the head, with the eyes situated at the anterior angles of a roughly quadrate mass.

The pen is very remarkable, exhibiting a combination of the characters of *Ommastrephes* and *Loligo*; I greatly regret that the posterior extremity was damaged in extracting it so that I have been unable to depict the extreme end on the plate; the dotted line indicates what seemed to have been the original form.

Certain other structural peculiarities of this animal seem to fit it for an abyssal existence; the small fins are in marked contrast to those of most pelagic species, although some genera which are characteristic surface forms such as *Cranchia* and *Idiosepius* have fins quite as small: the minute suckers and delicate tentacles appear but little fitted for raptorial purposes; while on the other hand the large circumoral membrane would seem well adapted for collecting nutritive matters from an oozy bottom.

It is uncertain to what family this form rightly belongs; it is possible that a new one will eventually be required for its reception.

<sup>1</sup> Third Catal., p. 402.