

The Colour is a very pale purplish grey, shading off to a creamy white on the ventral surface.

The Jaws are shown on Pl. I. figs. 4, 5.

*Dimensions.*<sup>1</sup>

Length, total, . . . . .	325	mm.
End of body to mantle-margin, . . . . .	65	„
End of body to eye, . . . . .	70	„
Breadth of body, . . . . .	70	„
Breadth of head, . . . . .	50	„
Mouth to edge of umbrella between lateral arms, . . . . .	65	„
Length of extremity of hectocotylised arm, <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	8	„
Breadth of extremity of hectocotylised arm, <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	2.5	„
Diameter of largest sucker, . . . . .	7	„
	Right.	Left.
Length of first arm, . . . . .	170 mm. <sup>3</sup>	200 mm.
Length of second arm, . . . . .	215 „	215 „
Length of third arm, . . . . .	225 „	220 „
Length of fourth arm, . . . . .	220 „	220 „

The original *Octopus bosci* was discovered on the western coast of Australia by Péron and Lesueur, and received from the former the manuscript name *Sepia rugosa*, Bosc; Lesueur, however, was of opinion that it was not the same as the species figured by Bosc,<sup>4</sup> and therefore gave it the name of that naturalist, but without publishing any diagnosis.<sup>5</sup>

Férussac and d'Orbigny give a brief description,<sup>6</sup> but do not say upon what it is based, and in the British Museum collection there is a specimen named *Octopus bosci* by Gray,<sup>7</sup> though no trace can be found of what led him to this identification. Under these circumstances it appeared better to accept Gray's opinion and to give a new definition of the old species rather than erect the Challenger specimens into a new one; the more so as Gray's *Octopus* does not disagree in any particular with d'Orbigny's description.

There is, however, a marked difference between it and the Challenger specimens in colour (too great, I think, to be accounted for merely by the disposition of the chromatophores), and the surface ornamentation is better marked in the latter, so I have separated them as a distinct variety.

It seems not impossible that *Octopus tetricus*, Gould, should be referred to this species; the description of the surface ornamentation is very similar, and it comes from

<sup>1</sup> Taken from the largest specimen (♀).

<sup>3</sup> Mutilated.

<sup>6</sup> *Journ. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad.*, vol. ii. p. 101.

<sup>2</sup> Taken from a smaller specimen, whose total length is 160 mm.

<sup>4</sup> *Actes Soc. Hist. Nat. Paris*, tab. v. figs. 1, 2.

<sup>5</sup> *Céph. acét.*, p. 68.

<sup>7</sup> *B. M. C.*, p. 12.